

BOOST YOUR MAC! 21 MAC APPS YOU NEED TO KNOW

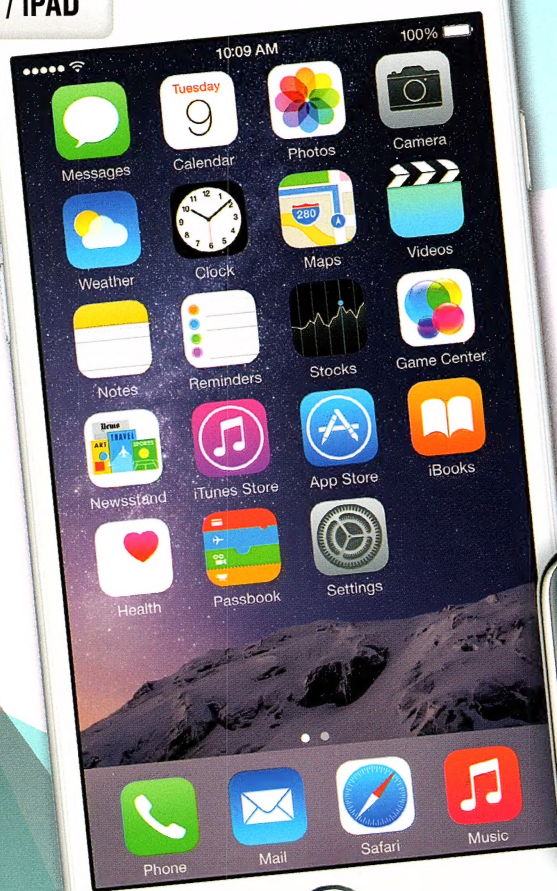


Macworld

AUSTRALIA

MAC / iPHONE / iPAD

OCTOBER 2014
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APPLE GOES BIG

Apple unveils two new iPhones, three smartwatches and a new mobile payment system



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THE MOMENT**
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SMARTWATCHES



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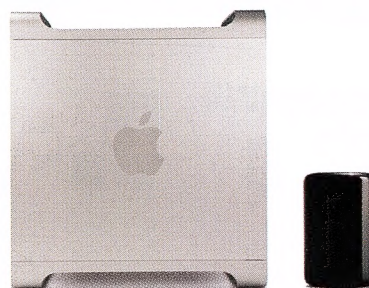
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HOT STUFF NEWS FROM APPLE'S SEPTEMBER EVENT

A NEW, BIGGER APPLE LINEUP

Apple revealed two new iPhones, three watches and a new HomePod smart speaker.

APPLE REVEALS TWO NEW IPHONES, THREE WATCHES AND A NEW HOMEPOD SMART SPEAKER

Apple took the stage in Cupertino, Calif., on Tuesday, Sept. 12, to reveal its latest products. The new iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus, the new Apple Watch and the new HomePod smart speaker.

THE NEW IPHONES

The new iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus are the smallest iPhones ever, with the iPhone 6s being 7.8mm thin and the iPhone 6s Plus being 7.4mm thin. They are also the first iPhones to feature a 12MP camera, a new A9 chip and a new design.

THE NEW APPLE WATCH

The new Apple Watch is a smartwatch that can track your health, fitness and location. It has a 1.5-inch Retina display, a digital crown and a variety of apps.

THE NEW HOMEPOD

The new HomePod is a smart speaker that can play music, answer questions and control your smart home. It has a 12.5-inch woofer, a 5.25-inch tweeter and a 1.4-inch midrange driver.

APPLE WATCH: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Apple Watch is a smartwatch that can track your health, fitness and location. It has a 1.5-inch Retina display, a digital crown and a variety of apps.

APPLE ATTEMPTS TO REMAKE THE HEADLINE MARKET WITH A NEW SMARTWATCH

Apple is trying to make a name for itself in the smartwatch market with the new Apple Watch. It has a 1.5-inch Retina display, a digital crown and a variety of apps.

THE NEW IPHONES

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SEPTEMBER EVENT

APPLE'S SEPTEMBER EVENT

"THE IPHONE 6, WITH THE A8 CHIP, IS UP TO 50 TIMES FASTER THAN THE ORIGINAL IPHONE"

Apple's new iPhone 6 is up to 50 times faster than the original iPhone. The new iPhone 6 is also the smallest iPhone ever, with a 4.7-inch screen and a 7.8mm thin design.

"IT'S TIM COOK'S APPLE NOW"

Tim Cook is the CEO of Apple. He is responsible for the company's overall strategy and vision. He is also the face of Apple, representing the company to the public.

"JUST GOT TO MOSCOW, WHERE IS EVERYONE?"

Apple's new iPhone 6 is up to 50 times faster than the original iPhone. The new iPhone 6 is also the smallest iPhone ever, with a 4.7-inch screen and a 7.8mm thin design.

"WE'RE NOT QUITE FINISHED YET... WE HAVE ONE MORE THING."

Apple's new iPhone 6 is up to 50 times faster than the original iPhone. The new iPhone 6 is also the smallest iPhone ever, with a 4.7-inch screen and a 7.8mm thin design.

APPLICATIONS

APP GUIDE

TOTAL WAR BATTLES: SHOGUN

For the iPhone 6s, Shogun is a strategy game that lets you build a powerful samurai army and conquer Japan. It has a 4.5-star rating and is available for \$2.99.

STARS WARD: COMMANDER

Stars Ward: Commander is a strategy game that lets you build a powerful army and conquer the world. It has a 4.5-star rating and is available for \$2.99.

THE NEW IPHONES

The new iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus are the smallest iPhones ever, with the iPhone 6s being 7.8mm thin and the iPhone 6s Plus being 7.4mm thin. They are also the first iPhones to feature a 12MP camera, a new A9 chip and a new design.

PRODUCTS

GADGET GUIDE

BEAR BROS. BOARDS

Bear Bros. Boards are a line of portable music players that can play MP3, AAC and WMA files. They have a 4.5-star rating and are available for \$29.99.

BEAT SOLO3

Beats Solo3 is a portable music player that can play MP3, AAC and WMA files. It has a 4.5-star rating and is available for \$29.99.

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CAPTURING THE MOMENT

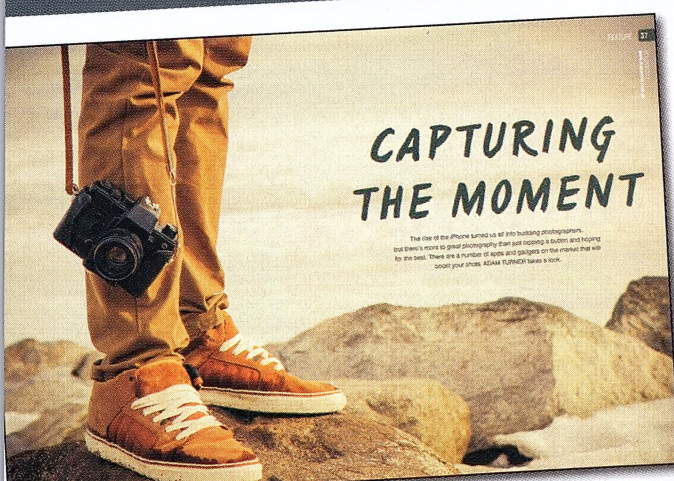
The rise of the iPhone turned us all into budding photographers, but there's more to great photography than just tapping a button and hoping for the best. There are a number of apps and gadgets on the market that will boost your shots. ADAM TURNER takes a look.

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21 GEMS FOR THE MAC

Mac software isn't hard to find. The challenge is finding the right combination of features and price. We downloaded and tested more than 100 apps and have collected our top picks in the following pages.





CAPTURING THE MOMENT

The rise of the iPhone turned us all into budding photographers, but there's more to great photography than just tapping a shutter and hoping for the best. There are a number of apps and gadgets on the market now to boost your iPhone. And here's how to use them.



21 GEMS FOR THE MAC

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PRODUCTIVITY

DAY ONE

Day One is a journaling app that lets you write in a journal, blog, or even a combination of the two. It's a great app for anyone who wants to keep a journal or blog. It's available on the Mac App Store for \$4.99.

MARKED 2

Marked 2 is a PDF annotation app that lets you mark up PDF files. It's a great app for anyone who needs to mark up PDF files. It's available on the Mac App Store for \$4.99.

Smartwatches

With the launch of the Apple Watch, smartwatches are finally ready for the mainstream. Here's our guide to the top smartwatches on the market today.

Traktor

The Traktor smartwatch is a rugged, outdoor-oriented device that's perfect for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. It features a large, high-contrast display and a variety of outdoor-specific features like a compass, altimeter, and weather forecast.

Samurai

The Samurai smartwatch is a sleek, modern device that's perfect for anyone who wants a smartwatch that looks like a regular watch. It features a high-resolution display and a variety of smartwatch features like notifications, fitness tracking, and more.

Pebble

The Pebble smartwatch is a classic, minimalist device that's perfect for anyone who wants a smartwatch that's simple and easy to use. It features a high-resolution display and a variety of smartwatch features like notifications, fitness tracking, and more.

Twelve South HiRise for iMac

Twelve South HiRise is a sleek, modern stand for your iMac. It's a great stand for anyone who wants a stand that's both functional and stylish. It's available on the Mac App Store for \$49.99.

Moshi Digits touchscreen gloves

Moshi Digits touchscreen gloves are a great way to protect your hands while using your touchscreen device. They're made of a soft, stretchy material and have touch-sensitive tips that allow you to use your device without removing the gloves. They're available on the Mac App Store for \$29.99.

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Bigger than bigger

Despite all of the rumours, swelling with each passing week, who can honestly say they expected Apple to open a new smartwatch product category, take the lid off a new payment solution and unveil two new larger iPhones?

For those who are regular watchers of Apple events, you would be used to Cook taking his time going through the latest numbers but not this time. The Apple chief's "it's going great" sufficed.

Apple barrelled straight into the iPhone release, revealing two larger smartphones, one at 4.7in and one at 5.5in, and answering the calls for bigger displays. They look beautiful and, despite the share price decline, will no doubt break sales records once again.

Apple Pay, if it functions as promised, could see a dramatic shift in mobile payments. Google has tried in this area in the past, but the ability of Apple to galvanise the public, merchants and banks (who may be sending a percentage of each transaction to Cupertino) could create a new social norm and a huge boost to the company's pockets.

Oh, one more thing. The launch of the Apple Watch. It may not be arriving until next year, but this is a sleek device. Packed full of features from Siri to a Digital Crown, this smartwatch is a game-changer for all Apple fans.

The September event did not show Apple entering areas of consumer technology yet to be examined – mobile payments, large smartphones and smartwatches are not new concepts – but it did show the company is still willing to bank on its ability to create beautiful and simple products in areas where rivals have struggled.

These were Tim Cook's products and I like where he is going.

30 YEARS OF MACWORLD

Macworld Australia is turning 30 in March and we are preparing a special project to commemorate this massive milestone. However, we may need your help. If you have been subscribing from the beginning and have copies from the '80s and '90s, we would like to hear from you at editor@macworld.com.au.

GRACE

Our hearts have been saddened with the passing of our former deputy editor Grace Robinson in August. She was a brilliant writer, an amazing member of the *Macworld* team and the most determined person I have ever met. She will be greatly missed by all who were lucky enough to have crossed her path.



STAFF PICKS

What did you like from Apple's massive September event?



JONATHAN STEWART

IPHONE 6

Who doesn't like a new look?

The changing iPhone design is a beautiful next step in the smartphone's evolution.



MADELEINE SWAIN

APPLE WATCH

The Apple Watch's

customisability. Not that I'll ever be able to afford one, but I appreciate the effort Apple has put in to make it for all tastes.



TYNAN MCCARTHY

APPLE PAY

NFC payments were something

I was hoping would be included in the iPhone 6 and Apple has delivered. I will even be able to pay using my watch from early next year.



MONIQUE BLAIR

APPLE WATCH

I'm really excited to check out the

Fitness app for the Apple Watch. You can examine your progress by the day, week and month, to see how far you have progressed.

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DIGITAL



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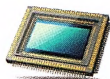
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Lenses and accessories shown are not included

Introducing Blackmagic URSA, the world's first user upgradeable 4K digital film camera!

Blackmagic URSA is the world's first high end digital film camera designed to revolutionize workflow on set. Built to handle the ergonomics of large film crews as well as single person use, URSA has everything built in, including a massive 10 inch fold out on set monitor, large user upgradeable Super 35 global shutter 4K image sensor, 12G-SDI and internal dual RAW and ProRes recorders.



Super 35 Size Sensor

URSA is a true professional digital film camera with a 4K sensor, global shutter and an incredible 12 stops of dynamic range.

The wide dynamic range blows away regular video cameras or even high end broadcast cameras, so you get dramatically better images that look like true digital film. The extra large Super 35 size allows for creative shallow depth of field shooting plus RAW and ProRes means you get incredible quality!



Dual Recorders

Blackmagic URSA features dual recorders so you never need to stop recording to change media. That's critical if you are shooting an historical event, important interview or where you just cannot stop shooting! Simply load an empty CFast card into the second recorder and when the current card is full, the recording will continue onto the second card, allowing you to change out the full card and keep shooting!



User Upgradeable Sensor

Blackmagic URSA features a modular camera turret that can be removed by unscrewing 4 simple bolts! The camera turret includes the sensor, lens mount and lens control connections and can be upgraded in the future when new types of sensors are developed. This means your next camera will be a fraction of the cost of buying a whole new camera! Choose professional PL mount, popular EF mount and more!



Built in On Set Monitoring!

Say goodbye to bulky on set monitors because you get a massive fold out 10 inch screen built into Blackmagic URSA, making it the world's biggest viewfinder! The screen is super bright and features an ultra wide viewing angle. URSA also includes two extra 5" touch screens on both sides of the camera showing settings such as format, frame rate, shutter angle plus scopes for checking levels, audio and focus!



Blackmagic URSA EF
\$7,235



Blackmagic URSA PL
\$7,839

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Blackmagicdesign



HAVE YOUR SAY

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE WIDENING STORAGE GAP

The elimination of the 32GB model is a stealthy method to get the most users possible to upgrade to the 64GB. Most users (at least, most that I know) feel that 16GB is not enough, so they will upgrade. If the base model were 32GB, I would bet that half of those upgraders would be fine with the 32GB. So, Apple just made the 16GB the least attractive new phone.

bigfootmn



THE IPAD NANO

I'm looking forward to getting an iPhone 6 when contract renewal time rolls around. I'm sure some people will favour the iPad nano (aka iPhone 6 Plus), but it seems too big to hold up to one's ear, even if it fits in a pocket. Yes, it would fit in my pocket, as long as I remain standing all day.

The 32GB option being dropped does feel strange. Isn't that the model most users would opt for? I do. 64GB it is then.

Greg

CAN'T DECIDE

Well, I might grab one of the new iPhone 6 models, but I can't decide between the two. I am not sure if I want to go up to the 5.5in – it seems so big, but it has the better resolution and battery life. The perfect size for me was the Galaxy S5 – not too big, not too small. So, saying that, the 4.7in seems like the right choice, but am I sacrificing much by not getting the 6 Plus?

Different Greg

DISAPPOINTED WITH APPLE

God knows how much of an Apple fan boy I am. I always have been excited by each new iPhone, but I can't believe the protruding lens and the large plastic bands. It is perfectly ugly and so far from Apple design. I can't believe it even wears the Apple logo.

No wonder Apple had to produce covers to hide it. It had to! Not to mention that the iSight camera stays at 8MP. In 2014! And they dared call this launch the biggest iPhone launch ever. My God.

I'm amazed by the Apple Watch and probably will want to have one, but this iPhone 6 is not at all impressive. We don't care about NFC (near field communication) here in Europe as there are close to zero applications, and Apple Pay will only come here in a year or two, if ever.

PP in Europe

SILICON VALLEY HIRING CASE

I don't expect many to agree with me, but I see a difference between not actively recruiting from each other and not hiring someone who works for the opposition. My understanding of the situation (which may be incorrect) is that the agreement wasn't to avoid hiring each other's workers, but to not actively seek them out. If this is true, then the workers were able to apply for jobs advertised at the other companies involved in the agreement.

My view is that it was an attempt to stop active pursuit of trade secrets (and not the suppression of wages) where there appears to be little remedy for theft of intellectual property in the courts, as demonstrated by other cases involving this judge.

Tony

WHERE'S THE EQUALITY?

In reference to the online article, 'Apple bans two chemicals from product assembly after protests' (bit.ly/1wheWeS), I wonder if these same groups put the same pressure on the Samsungs of this world? (I never hear about any Apple competitor undergoing the same level of scrutiny.)

AussieMacUser

OFFICE FOR iPad

In regards to *Macworld Australia's* online article from August, 'Revenue explosion from Office for iPad fails to ignite' (bit.ly/1CUIGAW), this does not surprise me in the least.

I always thought that the number of downloads of the app would not indicate a large actual user base – once people realise they have to pay a monthly or yearly fee to use it, the interest wanes quickly.

The subscription model will likely appeal only to business customers, whereas most of the iPad and iPhone users would be 'private' consumers who'd like to use a good word processing or spreadsheet app, but expect to use it in the same way as other apps; that is, pay for it once and use it as and when they please.

Most people don't create or edit enough documents to warrant forking out close to a hundred dollars every year to use it – especially not if free or cheap alternatives are available.

The Microsoft developers did a good job with their Office apps, but the subscription model simply does not appeal to most users – including me.

I think Microsoft should offer alternatives in the form of regular paid apps – that would really bring in revenue.

Lucien Dol

I SHARE THE FRUSTRATION

Like Graeme's letter in the August issue of *Macworld Australia*, I too have an issue with cloud storage. I currently have over 1TB of photos. No way is Apple going to want all that, without a very large cost attached to it. Added to that, over half the year my internet access is via satellite. This slow connection would melt down if we all parked our images in the cloud.

I agree there needs to be a better method of storing our images as we move away from conventional hard drives to solid state storage. Our images files' sizes are only growing not contracting.

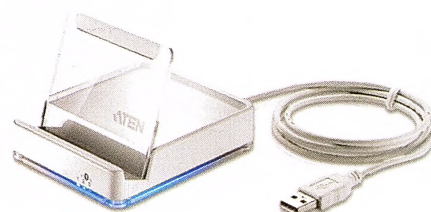
POC

■ Letters should be emailed to editor@macworld.com.au with a subject header of 'Letter to the Editor' or by post to: Macworld Australia Mailbox, 142 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, Victoria, 3205. Please include your full name and address, including state or territory.

■ Comments on stories or Forum posts on www.macworld.com.au are also eligible for the prize.

■ We reserve the right to edit letters and probably will.

■ Letters of fewer than 200 words are given preference.

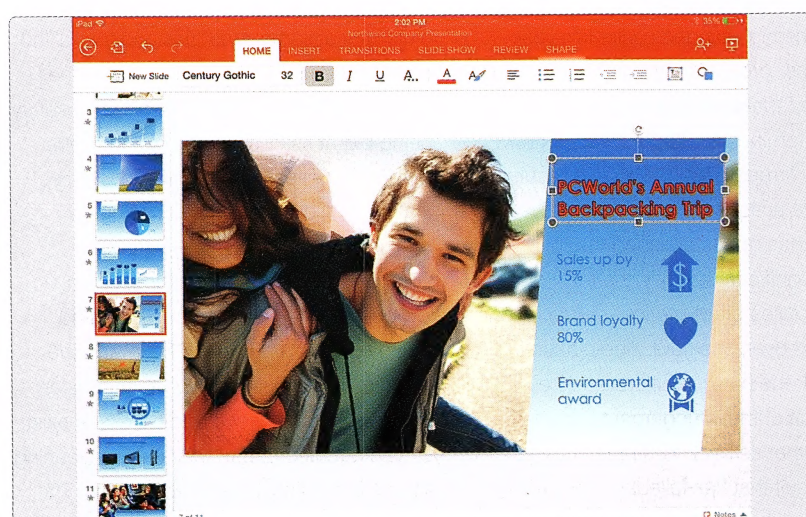


This month's prize to the *Macworld Australia* reader who submits what we think is the most interesting letter is an Aten CS533 Tap, worth \$69, from Anyware.

The Aten Tap is a control unit that allows access to one computer and two Bluetooth devices from a USB keyboard and mouse.

The Tap converts normal USB keyboard and mouse signals into Bluetooth connections to allow for easy sharing between your devices. It eliminates the need to purchase a Bluetooth keyboard or mouse for your devices, saving you valuable workspace and allowing you to use your favourite multimedia keyboard with all your Bluetooth devices.

www.anyware.com.au



TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Letter of the month 1. Instructions on how to enter form part of these conditions of entry. 2. To enter send tips or queries to editor@macworld.com.au with a subject header of "Letter to the Editor". Entries will be judged by the editorial staff of *Macworld Australia*. The judges' decision in relation to any aspect of the competition is final and binding on every person who enters. No correspondence will be entered into. Chance plays no part in determining the winner(s). Each entry will be individually judged based on its degree of interest. 4. Employees, their immediate families and agencies associated with this competition are not permitted to enter. 5. The Promoter accepts no responsibility for late or misdirected entries. 6. The best entry/entries as determined by the judges will win the prize(s). 7. The Promoter is neither responsible nor liable for any change in the value of the prize occurring between the publish date and the date the prize(s) is claimed. 8. The prize(s) is not transferable and will not be exchanged for cash. 9. The winner(s) will be notified by email. 10. All entries become the property of the Promoter. 11. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information provided in connection with this competition is governed by the Privacy Notice. 12. The Promoter is Niche Media Pty Ltd of 142 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205 Ph 03 9948 4900, (ABN 13 064 613 529).

HOT STUFF

A selection of Apple, Mac and iOS news from Macworld.com.au



IPHONE 5 BATTERY REPLACEMENT PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Apple is offering a second replacement program for iPhone 5 users after offering to replace the sleep/wake button on some models in April. This time around it's the phone's battery that's giving users headaches. Apple says that a "very small percentage of iPhone 5 devices" may be experiencing poor battery life, requiring users to charge the device more frequently.

Affected devices were sold between September 2012 and January 2013 and are within a specific serial number range, Apple says. You can check your serial number on Apple's site (ssl.apple.com/support/iphone5-battery) to see if your phone qualifies for a free battery replacement.

If you have an affected device you'll have the choice to replace your battery free of charge at the Apple Store, an Apple authorised service provider, or you can send it off to Apple Technical Support.

APPLE LOSES BID FOR SAMSUNG SALES BAN IN PATENT CASE

A US judge has denied Apple's request for a permanent sales ban in a patent infringement lawsuit against Samsung in California.

Apple had asked the court to block Samsung from selling phones and tablets that include patented technologies that a jury found Samsung infringed earlier this year.

But in her order in August, Judge Lucy Koh of the federal district court in San Jose, California, said Apple failed to show it suffered "irreparable harm" as a result of Samsung's actions.

"Apple has not established that it suffered significant harm in the form of either lost sales or reputational injury," Koh wrote. Moreover, she said, Apple hasn't shown that the harm it suffered was a direct result of the infringement.

It's another setback for Apple in a high-profile lawsuit that has failed to provide the returns it was looking for. In May, a jury at the

San Jose court awarded it just US\$119.65 million in damages for Samsung's infringement, while Apple had been seeking US\$2.2 billion. Both companies have challenged parts of the verdict.

The patents at issue in the case include the so-called 'slide to unlock' patent and the 'auto correct' patent, which covers technology for fixing words as they're typed.

APPLE BANS TWO CHEMICALS FROM PRODUCT ASSEMBLY AFTER PROTESTS

Apple has banned the use of two toxic chemicals from final assembly processes for its products, after watchdog groups demanded the company replace the substances with safer alternatives.

Earlier this year, Green America and China Labor Watch had called on Apple to eliminate the use of benzene and n-hexane from its supply chain. Both substances are known to be poisonous, but are still in use at Chinese factories, including those that build Apple products, the groups claimed.

In August, Apple said it investigated 22 of its final assembly facilities and found "no widespread use of benzene or n-hexane, and no evidence of worker health and safety being put at risk," according to an online report. The investigation covered facilities that employ close to 500,000 workers.

The two chemicals, however, were still found at four of the facilities, but in low concentrations that complied with Apple's safety regulations. Following the investigation, Apple concluded that safer alternatives to benzene and n-hexane exist, and so decided to ban their use as cleaning agents in the final assembly process. The change took effect on 1 September.



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APPLE CEO TIM COOK, SVP PHIL SCHILLER SOAKED IN 'ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE'

Big name tech execs have been getting in on the ice bucket challenge to raise funds for the ALS Association. Apple's SVP of marketing, Phil Schiller, showered himself in a bucket of freezing water in August and then challenged others to do the same, namely Apple CEO Tim Cook, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates.

Apple CEO Tim Cook answered the challenge the next day and had a bucket of freezing water tipped on his head. Cook then nominated Disney CEO Bob Iger, Beats co-founder Dr. Dre and musician Michael Franti to take up the challenge.

The challenge was created by the ALS Association, which is trying to raise funds to help find a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) – a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord.

People who are nominated have 24 hours to either dump ice-cold water over their heads or donate to the cause – most participants are doing both.

APPLE'S CARPLAY FINALLY HITS THE ROAD

Apple's CarPlay system has finally hit the road – in a Ferrari. The announcement from the Ferrari website, states that the first Ferrari with CarPlay installed, the FF model, has gone to an Italian client just days after the Apple technology commenced. CarPlay is also available for the Ferrari California T.

Other destinations for the inaugural CarPlay-equipped vehicles include Germany, the UK, France, Switzerland, Japan and the US.

The article on the Ferrari website reads:

"Apple CarPlay is the smarter, safer and fun way to use iPhone in your car. An incredibly intuitive system, CarPlay allows you to make calls, use maps, listen to music and access messages with a single word or touch of the central display."

This statement is accompanied by a video, showing the features in action.

Unfortunately we are yet to receive any updates on when the audio system will be available in more common, affordable vehicles, with previous reports pointing to delays that expect to push any further releases into 2015.

APPLE SAYS iCloud FLAW NOT AT ROOT OF CELEBRITY PHOTO HACK

Addressing a widespread hack of celebrities' photos, Apple has said that after more than 40 hours of investigation from the company's engineers, it has established that the accounts that were compromised were the subjects of a "very targeted attack on user names, passwords and security questions". While early reports suggested that a flaw in iCloud was responsible for the hack, Apple says that none of the



cases it has looked into were tied to any vulnerability in the company's systems.

Targeted attacks on specific users are, as Apple says, commonplace, and hardly limited to a particular service or company.

The company suggests use of a strong password and two-step verification to help protect against those attacks, though it's unclear if the limitations on the latter would have made it an obstacle in this particular case. Another potential weak point are the security questions that we all fill out in order to be able to retrieve a forgotten password, though there are also steps you can take to make those more secure.

It's clear that Apple needs to take steps not only to further secure access to user accounts, but also to help its own users protect their own data – say by providing a way to block certain photos from being automatically synced to the cloud. Until then, there are a few steps you can take to make sure that your data doesn't show up all over the internet.

APPLE NOW EMAILING USERS WHEN iCloud ACCESSED VIA WEB

In the wake of the theft of celebrity photos, Apple has started beefing up security for its iCloud service.

Apple will now send iCloud users an email whenever they (or someone purporting to be them) log into iCloud.com via a web browser. This seems to happen even if the browser and computer in question are ones that a user has previously logged in with. Apple's email advises users to change their Apple ID

password if they believe someone else is accessing their account. (As an additional tool, iCloud's web interface does provide the ability to log out of every currently logged in browser in its *Account Settings > Advanced*.)

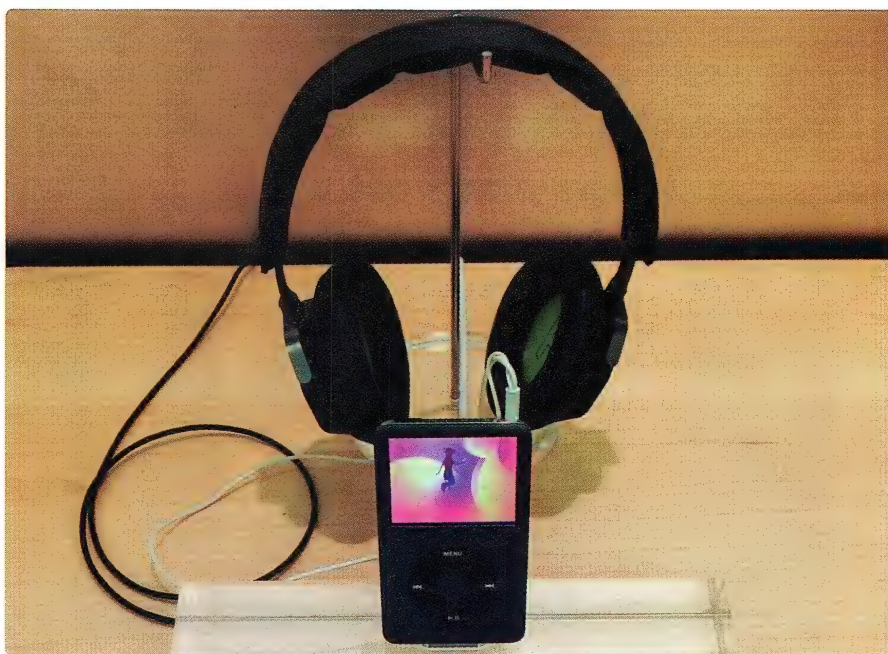
APPLE ENDS A CLASSIC

While this iPod had its charms – primarily its storage capacity – the time for mid-priced single-purpose hard-drive driven music players has passed.

With the death of the iPod classic, we witness the last of the original 5GB white iPod's line. No more hard drive. No more squarish screen. No more wheel control. And, no surprise.

When Steve Jobs announced 2010's iPod line-up, he made no mention of the iPod classic, though Apple continued to sell it. That should have been a broad enough hint that the classic was on life support. What was surprising to many is how long it lasted. The September announcement simply says Apple has moved on. And when Apple moves on as it did with floppy drives, ADB, SCSI and ExpressCard – ready or not – we follow or are left behind.

Apple generally doesn't leave customers in the lurch unless it has what it believes is a comparable or better option.



In the case of the iPod classic, today's most expensive iPod touch offers 64GB of storage and, with the announcement of a 128GB iPhone 6, can a similarly storage-rich iPod touch be far behind? This may not quite match the 160GB of storage offered by the last iPod classic, but it's sufficient for those who wish to carry around several weeks of music.

JUDGE PROPOSES JANUARY TRIAL IN SILICON VALLEY EMPLOYEE HIRING CASE

A federal judge in September proposed a 12 January start date for a jury trial in Silicon Valley's closely watched class-action employee hiring case, in which executives like Steve Jobs and Google's Sergey Brin are accused of conspiring not to hire each other's workers.

Judge Lucy Koh of the federal district court in San Jose, California, set the date in a court filing. A new trial would be preempted if there is a new settlement reached between plaintiffs and the companies. The judge estimated that a trial would last 17 days.

In August Koh rejected a proposed settlement of US\$324.5 million as


being too low given the strength of the evidence to support a trial. A court document filed in August said that mediation talks were under way toward a new settlement.

The plaintiffs in the case, suing on behalf of 64,000 technology workers, accuse executives at companies including Google and Apple of entering into secret agreements not to hire each other's workers, in an effort to protect their investments. Those agreements, plaintiffs allege, restricted their mobility and drove down their wages.

A major chunk of evidence in the case consists of emails sent between the executives.

"If you hire a single one of these people, that means war," Jobs told Google co-founder Sergey Brin at one point, according to a previous court filing.

Intuit, Lucasfilm and Pixar already settled with workers last year. Apple, Google, Intel and Adobe Systems comprise the remaining defendants.

If there is a trial, executives like Larry Page, Eric Schmidt and Sergey Brin could take the witness stand, possibly revealing an ugly side of how hiring works in Silicon Valley. Google declined to comment. Officials at Apple, Adobe and Intel were not immediately available to comment. 

HOT STUFF

NEWS FROM APPLE'S SEPTEMBER EVENT



A NEW, BIGGER APPLE LINEUP

APPLE REVEALS TWO NEW IPHONES, THREE WATCHES AND A NEW MOBILE PAYMENT SYSTEM.

Apple took to the stage in September to unveil two much anticipated, new iPhone models, the iPhone 6 and the iPhone 6 Plus, a new payment system called Apple Pay and the Apple Watch range.

IPHONE 6 AND IPHONE 6 PLUS

Apple's senior vice president of worldwide marketing Phil Schiller introduced the new, thinner iPhone lineup. The phones feature Retina HD displays, curved bezels, a new A8 chip and stainless steel Apple logos.

The last two iPhone models have featured a 4in display but, as expected, the iPhone 6 model has a larger 1334 x 750, 4.7in display, with a pixel density of 326 pixels per inch, while the iPhone 6 Plus comes with a 1920 x 1080, 5.5in display with a pixel density of 401ppi.

According to Schiller, the iPhone 6 has over one million pixels packed into its display, while the iPhone 6 Plus has over twice that number. This means the new displays have 38 percent and 185 percent

more pixels respectively than the iPhone 5s and offer deeper blacks and broader viewing angles.

Apple has sought to make the bigger iPhone more user friendly by moving the power button to the side of the iPhone and by unveiling a new gesture called Reachability. Users can double tap the Touch ID button and the whole display slides down, making it easier to reach the top of the display without taking your hand off the phone.

The next-generation 64-bit A8 chip will power the new models, with a GPU that's up to 50 percent faster, a CPU that's up to 25 percent faster and a 50 percent increase in power efficiency. When compared to the original iPhone launched in 2007, the new iPhone 6 is almost 50 times as responsive.

Find out more about the new iPhone range on Page 18.

APPLE WATCH

Apple has proved the rumours correct with the launch of the highly anticipated Apple Watch. In fact, Apple has launched three Apple Watch models, the Apple Watch, Apple Watch Sport and Apple Watch Edition, all to be released next year. All three versions are available in two sizes – 38mm and 42mm in height.

The new devices feature third-party apps, health and fitness sensors, a new swipe-based messenger, a flexible Retina sapphire display and Siri. They are available in a range of six different band styles.

It's the first new product line under Tim Cook's leadership, and accordingly the Apple CEO took the opportunity to make the announcement about the smartwatch.

"We've been working incredibly hard for a long time on an entirely new products. We believe this product will redefine what people expect from this category. I am so excited and so proud to share it with you this morning," said Cook, during his introduction.

The Australian price is yet to be announced but the watches will be available in the US for US\$349 in early 2015. Find out more on Page 15.

APPLE PAY

Apple wasn't satisfied with the Apple Watch and two new iPhone models, also launching a new mobile payment system called Apple Pay that will initially begin in the US.

The new system will utilise NFC (near field communication), built into the top of the new iPhone models and the Apple Watch models, and allow users to make swipe payments from credit cards stored in the company's Passbook app.

Find out more on Page 21.



APPLE WATCH: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

APPLE ATTEMPTS TO REMAKE THE WEARABLES MARKET WITH A NEW SMARTWATCH LINEUP.

Tim Cook finally got a chance to roll out a brand new product – heck, a brand new product category – for Apple in September, unveiling the company's new Apple Watch lineup at a highly anticipated press event in Cupertino. Apple demonstrated many juicy features of the watch, but left a lot to the imagination, including exactly when we can buy one. Here's a breakdown of what we know and what we still can't wait to find out.

What are the differences between the three watches?

Apple Watch is made of stainless steel, in a shiny chrome or a black finish. Its touchscreen is covered by a sapphire crystal, which should make it more scratch-resistant than the Gorilla Glass Apple has used on its iPhones. Apple Watch Sport has an anodised aluminium case (which is lighter than stainless steel) in silver or grey, and the face is Ion-X glass, which also designed to be hard and rugged (as well as a little bit lighter) than the sapphire. It's definitely the lightest of the three Apple Watch editions, making it an ideal exercise companion.

As for the Apple Watch Edition, it ramps

up the luxury factor with an 18-karat gold casing in yellow or rose. As you might expect, it's heavy. The Apple Watch Edition also comes in a fancy leather box that doubles as a charging cradle!

Are there multiple models because one size doesn't actually fit all?

Yes, each edition comes in two sizes, which is something we haven't seen with any Android Wear watches so far. You'll be able to get the Apple Watches in heights of 38 and 42 millimetres, respectively.

Can you swap out the watch band? Absolutely. Apple announced six bands, and it seems like it'll be easy to mix and match any band with any watch, swapping them out as your heart desires without the aid of any tools.

When does it ship? Is Apple taking pre-orders?

It won't ship until early 2015 in the US, with Australian dates yet to be announced. And no, Apple's not taking pre-orders right now.

How much does it cost? Apple said the watch would start at US\$349, but that's all it's saying at this point. It's unclear if the small or large sizes will have different price tags, or how much extra we can expect to pay for the premium Apple Watch Edition.

Which phones does it work with? Good news: you do need an iPhone to pair with

your Apple Watch, but it doesn't have to be the brand-new iPhone 6 or iPhone 6 Plus. An iPhone 5, 5s or 5c will work just fine.

What kinds of sensors does the Apple Watch have? Can it track my heart rate?

Apple says that the watch has a couple of different sensors, including an accelerometer and a 'custom' sensor that uses visible-light and infrared LEDs along with photodiodes, all on the back of the device, to determine your heart rate. The Apple Watch can also talk to your iPhone's GPS and Wi-Fi to help with figuring out location and other information.

So it's a watch and a fitness tracker?

The accelerometer lets the watch count your steps, and it can rely on the GPS in the paired iPhone to determine the distance. That data comes in handy for two of the apps Apple included on the watch: Activity and Workout. Activity shows your progress toward daily goals for moving, exercising and even standing. Workout is for more detailed tracking of a variety of activities, including distance, pace, time and calories burned during each session.

How do you navigate the Apple Watch?

It's got a touchscreen, right? It does have a touchscreen, but the Apple Watch's big innovation is the little dial that sticks out the side, also known as the Digital Crown. That's a high-tech version of the crown you'll find on standard wristwatches, which you turn to set the time or wind the watch. In the case of the Apple Watch, however, the Digital Crown acts more like the iPod's Click Wheel. You can turn the crown to scroll through a list or zoom in and out of a map. Pressing the Crown returns you to the watch's home screen, just like pressing the Home button on your iPhone would.

Below the Digital Crown, you'll find a button, which Apple simply refers to as 'the Button'. Press it to access the Friends app, which brings up a Contacts-style collection of the people you like to stay in touch



with. Tapping a picture of a friend lets you send them a message, make a phone call or make contact with the Apple Watch's Digital Touch features.

You can swipe around your Apple Watch screen and you can jump to little bits of information – your calendar, your location, current weather data and so forth. Apple calls these Glances, and they strip out the most relevant information from apps and put them into a form you can digest just by looking at your Watch's screen.

When you do touch the Apple Watch, its screen can actually distinguish between a regular tap, which you'll use to select things, and a harder touch, which is how you'll access contextual menus – kind of like right-clicking with your mouse.

Can the Apple Watch do anything my iPhone can't do on its own? Apple showed off a really cool-looking app called Digital Touch, as we mentioned above. Digital Touch lets you tap out a pattern on your watch face, which your friend will see

and feel on his or her own Apple Watch. You can also send drawings to each other.

If you hold down two fingers in Digital Touch, you can send your heartbeat, which shows up on your friend's watch as a glowing, pulsing heart.

What kind of apps did Apple build for Apple Watch? Apple seems to have gone all out for the watch, building in many of the common apps that we use every day: Messages, Mail, Weather, Calendar, Maps, Passbook, Music, Photos and more. A few notable omissions: while the Apple Watch can act as a viewfinder for your iPhone's camera, letting you snap pictures and even set the self-timer, it doesn't have its own built-in camera. Nor does it have Safari, Apple's web browser – all the information you get is mediated through those apps.

Does it have Siri? Can it make phone calls? The Apple Watch has a microphone and a speaker, so you can talk to it and it can talk to you. (You can also use the microphone to do voice dictation, send

audio messages and even communicate via walkie-talkie mode with other Apple Watch users).

And yes, you can use it to make and receive phone calls, as well as transfer calls to your iPhone or a Bluetooth device.

Is it waterproof? Can I swim with it?

The Apple Watch is water resistant, but not waterproof. You can wear it on a rainy day and have water splashed on it and it'll survive, but you can't submerge it in water.

What can the Apple Watch do without a phone? The Apple Watch is at least a few months from shipping, and Apple is being careful in releasing all the details of the device. It's definitely meant to be used with an iPhone nearby, but it is functional when the two devices are parted – say, when you

want to go for a run and don't want to bring your iPhone with you. The Apple Watch can track your fitness information, play music (from its own onboard storage) via Bluetooth, and even make purchases using Apple Pay, all without the iPhone being present.



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IPHONE 6 AND IPHONE 6 PLUS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

APPLE RELEASES TWO NEW BIGGER IPHONES.

At its big spring event in September, Apple unveiled two new iPhones: the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus. As expected, both new models sport much larger screens than previous versions. Here's what you need to know.

THE BASICS

How much do the phones cost? The iPhone 6 will cost \$869 for 16GB, \$999 for 64GB and \$1129 for 128GB. The iPhone 6 Plus will cost slightly more at each storage level: \$999 for 16GB, \$1129 for 64GB and \$1249 for 128GB.

With the release of the new iPhones, the iPhone 5s is now \$749 (16GB) and \$799 (32GB), while the 8GB iPhone 5c is \$529.

Wait, there's no 32GB model? Alas, while Apple has bumped the storage capacity of the top two models from 32GB and 64GB to 64GB and 128GB, respectively, the least capacious iPhone 6 and 6 Plus models continue to offer just 16GB.

What colours can I get? As with the iPhone 5s, you'll be able to get both iPhone 6 models in Space Grey (dark grey with a black screen bezel), silver (with a white screen bezel) or gold (also with a white screen bezel – and some white trim on the back).

HOW THEY COMPARE

How do the new models compare to the iPhone 5s? They are, to put a not-so-subtle point on it, very different phones – at least in terms of design and size.

To start with the most obvious difference, the screens on the new phones are bigger: 4.7in diagonally for the iPhone 6 and 5.5in for the 6 Plus, compared to 4in for the 5s. But bigger sizes mean more pixels, too, and Apple calls these new displays Retina HD. The screen on the 4.7in iPhone 6 has a resolution of 1334 x 750, with a pixel-density of 326 pixels per inch (ppi); the 5.5in 6 Plus offers a whopping 1920 x 1080 pixels at a density of 401 ppi. These compare to a resolution of 1136 x 640 pixels for the iPhone 5s' screen, at the same 326 ppi density as the iPhone 6.

But Retina HD means more than just resolution and pixel density. According to Apple, the new screens are sRGB-accurate, and include an improved

polariser, photo-aligned IPS liquid crystal and dual-domain pixels that provide a broader angle of view.

The new models also sport a new physical design compared to the iPhone 5s. Gone are the flat sides and chamfered edges. Instead, the new, thinner models feature smoothly rounded edges and a Unibody appearance – while the iPhone 4, 4s, 5, and 5s models always struck us as being somewhat industrial, thanks to the sharp edges and flat sides, the 6 and 6 Plus look sleek. The rounded edges also make the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus feel more comfortable to hold, despite them being larger than the iPhone 5, and they bring to mind the rounded edges of the original iPhone model.

Oh, and one minor tidbit: the Sleep/Wake button on the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus is located along the right-hand edge of the phone, rather than on top.

What about the insides? The new iPhones also get significant internal upgrades. For starters, both feature Apple's new A8 processor. Like the A7 used in the iPhone 5s, the A8 is a powerful, 64-bit processor, but the A8 sports roughly twice as many transistors (2 billion compared to 1 billion), even though it's 13 percent

smaller than the A7. The result is (Apple says) 25 percent higher CPU performance, 50 percent higher graphics performance and 50 percent better energy efficiency. That increased efficiency means (in theory) that Apple doesn't need to throttle performance, as some other smartphone vendors do, in order to conserve battery life and prevent overheating.

The iPhone 6 models also get some new wireless capabilities. Both support 802.11ac Wi-Fi, which is up to three times faster than the Wi-Fi in the iPhone 5s. The new phones' implementation of LTE for cellular data is faster as well, with speeds of up to 150mbps, compared to 100mbps in the 5s; and the new models support 20 LTE bands (compared to 13 previously), which Apple says is more than in any other smartphone.

Also in the wireless-hardware category: The 6 and 6 Plus include near-field communication (NFC) circuitry. Among other things, this will allow you to use these models to purchase items using Apple's new Apple Pay technology.

How is the M8 better than the M7?

With the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus, Apple has introduced the successor to the M7, called, logically enough, the M8. The company hasn't yet offered many details about the difference between the M7 and M8, but Apple has said that the M8 takes advantage of a new barometer sensor in these models to determine changes in altitude by measuring changes in air pressure. So, for example, the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus can now track elevation and stairs ascended and descended.

How does the 6 compare with the 6 Plus?

The most obvious difference is screen size. As mentioned above, at 1920 x 1080 pixels and 401 ppi, the iPhone 6 Plus's 5.5in display has roughly twice as many pixels as the iPhone 6's 4.7in display (at 1334 x 750 pixels and 326 ppi). Of

course, that means that the iPhone 6 Plus is also physically larger than the iPhone 6: 158.1mm x 77.8mm x 7.1mm versus 138.1mm x 67.0mm x 6.9mm and 129g versus 172g.

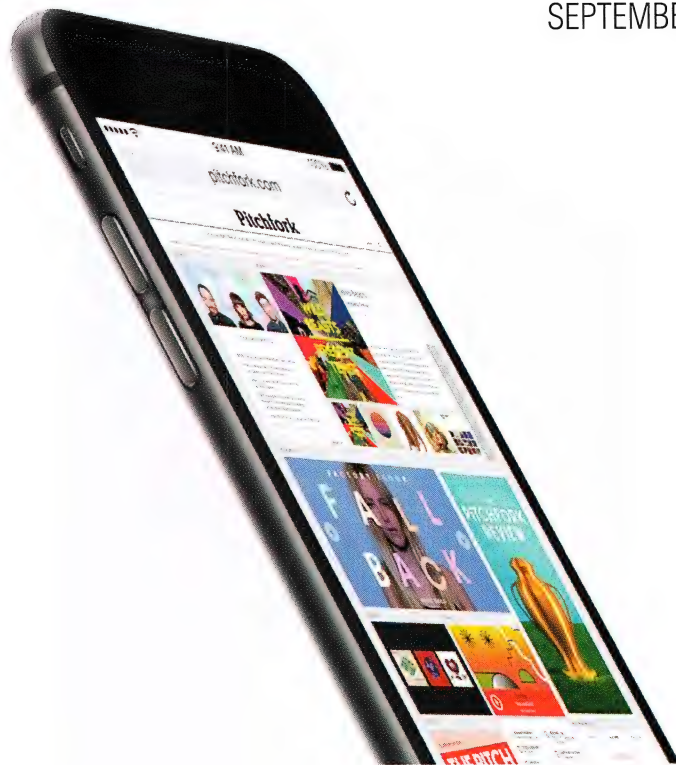
But close behind the differences in the way the phones look is the way each fits in your hand: the 6 Plus is really, really big. Those with small hands could have a hard time using it single-handedly.

By default, the iPhone 6 Plus takes advantage of its extra screen space to put more information on screen. Apps that previously featured only one pane of information can now offer two in landscape orientation, making the device almost feel like a tiny iPad. However, users with vision issues who were hoping that the iPhone 6

Plus would be a 'large-print edition' of the iPhone needn't fret. You can set the iPhone 6 Plus to use the display like a regular iPhone 6, at which point everything on the screen is just bigger. You choose which you prefer: larger or more.

Though the iPhone 6's screen is smaller, Apple's tech specs also state that its contrast ratio (1400:1) is slightly better than that of the iPhone 6 Plus screen (1300:1). We suspect, however, that this difference will be slight enough that most people won't notice, even in a side-by-side comparison.

Internally, both models include the same A8 processor, the same M8 motion coprocessor, and such – Apple says that in terms of performance, the two are identical.





What about the cameras? Are they better now, too? What would a new iPhone be without a new camera or two? The iSight (rear) camera is still eight megapixels, with a True Tone flash, 1.5-micron pixels, and an f/2.2 aperture, but Apple says it uses a new sensor that takes better photos. The new 'Focus Pixels' and new image signal processor built into the A8 chip allow phase-detection auto focus – a technology you'll find in many SLRs that, claims Apple, allows the iSight camera to focus almost twice as fast as its iPhone 5s counterpart. The new camera also features better tone mapping and noise reduction, as well as a dedicated hardware block that provides better, faster face detection and faster burst photo mode.

The iPhone 6 improves on the iPhone 5s' digital image-stabilisation feature by taking four photos, each with a short exposure time and then automatically combining the best parts of each into a single image. This feature should reduce blur and noise significantly, as well as improve low-light shots. The iPhone 6 Plus adds another level of image stabilisation by including optical-hardware stabilisation.

Based on motion data from the A8 chip and the phone's gyroscope, the lens itself actually moves to automatically adjust and stabilise images.

The new iSight camera offers better video performance, as well. You can now opt to record 1080p HD video at 60 frames per second (fps) instead of 30 for smoother video. Both new iPhones also take advantage of Focus Pixels to autofocus continually as you shoot – you no longer need to tap the screen to update the focus if your subjects move – and to refocus more quickly than on previous iPhones. And you can now do slow-motion video up to 240fps with image stabilisation (again, with optical stabilisation on the 6 Plus).

On the software side, a new time-lapse feature in iOS 8 can automatically take photos at the interval you specify and then combine them into a movie. The FaceTime HD (front) camera gets some updates, as well. A new sensor with a larger, f/2.2 aperture captures 81 percent more light, according to Apple and offers better face detection. The FaceTime camera also inherits the iSight camera's burst mode,

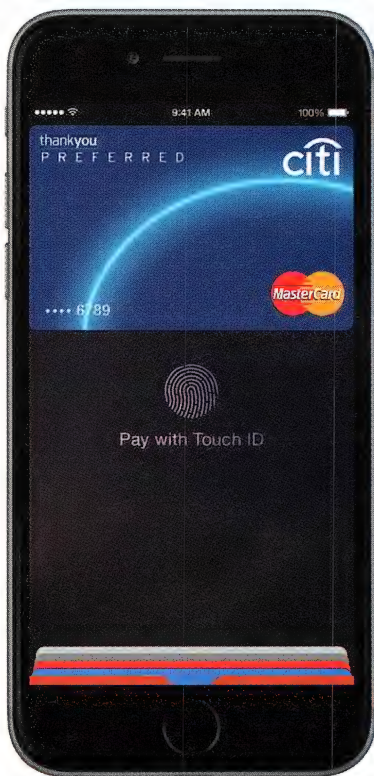
capable of capturing up to 10 photos per second, and it can take single-shot HDR photos, as well as HDR videos.

Is Touch ID on both models? Yes, Touch ID is present on both iPhone 6 models. It functions identically to the way it does on the iPhone 5s, although thanks to iOS 8, both phones – along with the iPhone 5s – gain Apple Pay functionality.

What about battery life? You might think that, but Apple's battery technology seems to keep pace with the added power needs of its devices. Plus, thanks to the larger size of the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus, each phone has a larger battery than you'll find in the iPhone 5s. Apple says the iPhone 6 has slightly better battery life than the iPhone 5s; the iPhone 6 Plus, while it has an even larger high-resolution screen that consumes even more power, also has an even larger battery. As a result, Apple's new big phone can actually eke out a few more hours of use than the iPhone 6. If you're looking for the iPhone with the longest battery life without an external battery pack, Apple's estimates suggest that the iPhone 6 Plus is what you'll want.

Are there any other ways Apple is taking advantage of the larger screens on these iPhones? A surprising and intriguing one is the keyboard. In landscape orientation, the iOS onscreen keyboard gains extra buttons along the left and right edges, featuring shortcuts, for example, for styling text and copying and pasting. (Both models gain this tweak, though the iPhone 6 Plus gets more of these extra keys.) In portrait mode, the iPhone 6 keyboard looks quite familiar – but every single key is a little bit bigger, making typing accuracy that much better, in our quick hands-on.

All that extra screen space also means you get an extra row of icons on each Home screen, and on the iPhone 6 Plus, you – finally – get a landscape-orientation Home screen.



WHAT IS APPLE PAY?

APPLE AIMS TO REPLACE YOUR WALLET WITH AN IPHONE OR APPLE WATCH

Apple's event in Cupertino wasn't all about iPhones and watches. CEO Tim Cook also took the stage to launch the company's new wallet-killer technology, Apple Pay.

The new payment process works using NFC (near-field communication) technology, so all you have to do is hold your phone to a sensor at the cash register, then use Touch ID to complete the process. Apple Pay will be exclusive to the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus, because the new phones are equipped with the requisite NFC radio antenna.

Apple is opening an Apple Pay API to developers in iOS 8, and will officially launch its wallet replacement as an update to the new OS next month.

Other NFC-based payment systems have emerged in recent years with their own ambitions of replacing your credit cards, but they haven't met with great

success. Google Wallet was designed to do something similar to Apple Pay for Android phones, but wireless carriers shunned it in favour of backing their own NFC-enabled Softcard app (formerly known as Isis).

"Most people that have worked on this have started by focusing on creating a business model that was centred on their self-interest, instead of focusing on the user experience," CEO Cook said during the event. "We love this kind of problem. This is exactly what Apple does best. And so we've created an entirely new payment process."

SECURITY AND PRIVACY FEATURES

To get started with Apple Pay, you'll use a credit card on file with iTunes or add another one by taking a photo of it with your new iPhone. You verify the card, then store it to Passbook. If you're concerned about the safety of your private information (particularly in light of the recent celebrity photo hack, Apple Pay has a variety of

security features baked in to make the new process a little less scary.

The company doesn't store your card number on your phone or in iCloud. Instead, Apple uses what it calls the 'Secure Element', an encryption method that disguises your payment information. Apple Pay generates a number for one-time use – and the same goes for the security code on the back of your credit or debit card. When you hold your phone to a store's NFC sensor to pay, the cashier can't see your card number, security code or even your name. Apple senior vice president of Internet Software and Services Eddy Cue said Apple doesn't see or store information about your transactions, so it doesn't know where you're shopping or how much you spend. All of your information is yours.


Additionally, with Apple Pay, if you lose your phone and are worried about someone using it to pay for things, you can shut down payments from that device using Find My iPhone.

WHERE APPLE PAY WORKS

NFC isn't exactly new technology, so some 220,000 US stores already have the tech in place to accept Apple Pay. US customers will be able to use the iPhone 6 or 6 Plus at their local Macy's, Whole Foods Market, Nike, Subway, McDonald's, Disney and, of course, Apple stores.

But Apple Pay isn't just a way of replacing physical cards – it's also aimed at streamlining online shopping. Integration with OpenTable, Starbucks, Groupon, Seamless, Uber, Chipotle and a slew of other partners means US customers can skip entering payment details in an app that works with Apple Pay.

Apple Pay will also work with the Apple Watch when the US\$349 wearable ships early next year.

Apple Pay will only be available in the US to start with, but Apple says it hopes to roll out the technology to many other countries soon. 

APPLE'S SEPTEMBER EVENT

"THE iPhone 6, WITH THE A8 CHIP, IS UP TO 50 TIMES FASTER THAN THE ORIGINAL iPhone"

– Phil Schiller

"We are not in the business of collecting your data. When you go to a location and use Apple Pay, Apple doesn't know what you bought, where you bought it or how much you paid for it. The transaction is between you, the merchant and your bank."

– Eddy Cue on Apple Pay

**"IT'S
TIM
COOK'S
APPLE
NOW"**

– Re/code's Walt Mossberg

**"DIFFERENT
IS THE ONE
THING
ABOUT US
THAT WILL
ALWAYS BE
THE SAME."**

– Apple's press video

**"MOST PEOPLE THAT
HAVE WORKED ON THIS
HAVE STARTED BY
FOCUSING ON CREATING
A BUSINESS MODEL
THAT WAS CENTRED
ON THEIR SELF-
INTEREST, INSTEAD OF
FOCUSING ON THE USER
EXPERIENCE. WE LOVE
THIS KIND OF PROBLEM.
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT
APPLE DOES BEST. AND
SO WE'VE CREATED
AN ENTIRELY NEW
PAYMENT PROCESS."**

– Tim Cook on Apple Pay

**"JUST GOT TO
MOSCONE, WHERE
IS EVERYONE?"**

– Eddy Cue on the change of event venue

"There's such amazing history here. We've had some of the most important product introductions in Apple's history on this stage. On this stage, 30 years ago, Steve introduced Macintosh to the world. And on this stage we introduced the iMac. Which signalled the rebirth of Apple."

– Tim Cook on the Flint Centre

"FOR YOU LEFTIES: THE APPLE WATCH CROWN WORKS OK WHEN THE WATCH IS ON YOUR RIGHT HAND. BUT THERE'S A SOUTHPAW MODE WHICH FLIPS THE UI AROUND."

– Fast Company's technology editor Harry McCracken

"WHAT BONO AND THE EDGE WERE THINKING THROUGH THE STADIUM YEARS: 'I WISH THIS WAS AN ALL-SEATER ROOM WHERE PEOPLE HAD COME TO SEE A WATCH.'"

– MacUser on U2's performance

"WE'RE NOT QUITE FINISHED YET... WE HAVE ONE MORE THING."

– Tim Cook on the Apple Watch

"LET'S REMEMBER THAT THE MOST NOTABLE WRIST TREND IN THE PAST FEW YEARS IS PEOPLE ABANDONING WRISTWATCHES. IF THE APPLE WATCH SUCCEEDS, IT WILL HAVE TO OVERCOME THAT TIDAL FORCE."

– David Pogue for Yahoo! Tech

"Thanks to sensors on the Apple Watch's back, the device can tell when it's being worn and when it has been taken off. When you first put the watch on, you must enter a code. When the watch is removed from your wrist, the watch locks itself and can't be used for payments unless the code is entered again."

– Cult of Mac's Leander Kahney

"@tim_cook
Stop tweeting
and fix the
video stream."

– @atomicbird on Apple's live video stream issues

Black and white delight in rural Gippsland

Our favourite iSnap photo for October was taken by Nick Roder, and showcases a rustic rural setting in beautiful black and white, situated within the Gippsland region of Victoria.



A flight paramedic working with Air Ambulance Victoria, Nick was originally called upon to winch an injured person to safety after an incident with a horse. But after the patient's injuries were deemed non-serious, the 4WD option was taken instead.

Nick was opening a gate to the rescue site in Bindi, deep in the Gippsland region, when he came across this old farmhouse – and just had to take a photo with his iPhone 5s.

"I'm attracted to old farm buildings," Nick says. "They have immense character and are embedded with so many stories."

Unfortunately Nick had no history on this particular building, as he was just

quickly passing by, but he was able to give the rustic farmhouse his own personal touch through the use of OS X software Aperture and Nik Silver Efex Pro.

Nick predominantly used the software to convert the image into B&W, while the remaining editing was mostly limited to simple contrast and brightness adjustments.

If Nick edits a photo on the iPhone itself, he uses Camera+, noting its very accessible interface and ability to produce effective results.

Our October winner pointed to the iPhone's availability as one of its key advantages when taking photos, along

with quality resolution and accurate exposure. "The best camera you have is the one that's with you when you need it, and I carry this everywhere. Of course very reasonable resolution and accurate exposure help."

The speed at which photos can be taken with an iPhone allowed Nick to waste next to no time in the transport of the injured child, something that would not be possible with a DSLR or other professional photography setup.

Nick's advice is to love your subject. "Great photos are the ones where it's evident the photographer is passionate about what's in front of the lens."

In iSnap we're on the lookout for some of the best photographs being taken with iOS devices. Submit your favourites to macworld@macworld.com.au for your chance to be featured in the online iSnap gallery (www.macworld.com.au/isnap). Each month's winner will win a prize and appear on this page!

This month's prize is a Flex (\$39.99) and a Shutter Remote (\$54.99) from iStabilizer. The iStabilizer Flex features flexible legs with wrapping capability allowing you to secure your Flex to virtually any surface. Capture incredible images without the shakes typically associated with hand-held photography.

The Shutter Remote offers control over your device via Bluetooth. The remote allows users to capture photos, change music tracks and volume, play and pause movies on an iOS device or Mac, activate Siri and initiate navigation.

www.istabilizer.com



OWC ThunderBay 4 4-bay Thunderbolt 2 Drive

Add vast amounts of high-performance storage capacity and utilize each of the four drives independently, or use the software RAID of your choice to setup the ThunderBay 4 for multi-drive performance or data redundancy.

Up to 24TB from \$479.00

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1,342MB/s
READ AND WRITE SPEEDS!

Now available with RAID 5, drive monitoring, and email notification options.



OWC Mercury Elite Pro Dual

Dual Bay Thunderbolt + USB 3.0 Drive

The perfect solution for any backup, audio/video, photography, or data management needs.

Up to 10TB from \$267.99



OWC Helios 2

Thunderbolt 2 Expansion Chassis

Utilize up to two PCIe cards. Perfect for A/V editing, networking, storage, and more.

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Thunderbolt Portable Drives

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OWC Mercury Elite Pro Qx2

The Qx2 features four 3.5" hard drives in a brushed aluminum enclosure with hardware RAID 0/1/5/10 flexibility and up to 300MB/s performance.

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USB 3.0 + eSATA + FW800



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MAC SECURITY: PROTECTING YOUR DATA AND COMMUNICATIONS

BY ANTHONY CARUANA

Security is probably the biggest issue in IT at the moment. And while for many years Mac users felt that they were immune to the vast array of different threats out there, the reality is different today.

Unlike the 'I'm a Mac, I'm a PC' ad that lampooned Windows' security credentials, today's world is a very different place. Viruses are no longer the main threat. The bad guys are getting smarter and employ lots of different tactics such as social engineering attacks, phishing and even plain old theft.

So, what can you do about it?

WHAT ARE WE PROTECTING?

When we are thinking about protecting our data we need to think about two different things.

- data at rest
- data in flight

Data at rest is what's stored on your hard drive, on USB sticks and other physical media.

When data is in flight, it's being transmitted from one point to another.

PROTECTING DATA AT REST

With your Mac, we strongly recommend turning FileVault on. This technology encrypts all of the data on your hard drive.

If someone doesn't have the right username and password combination and tries to access the drive they will be blocked. So, if your Mac is disassembled and the drive is placed in an external drive casing or another computer, it won't be able to be read.

You can enable FileVault from the

Security and Privacy section of System Preferences. While it may cause a slow down with file access from your drive, we've not noticed any difference using our MacBook Pro that's equipped with an SSD.

It's also important that you pay attention to the programs you install on your computer. Don't install applications unless you know what data they might access.

Also, be wary of allowing untrusted parties to have access to your computer by remote control. One of the more common scams going around are support people that call and try to convince you, over the phone, to install a program on your computer that allows them to gain remote access.

Finally, many people unwittingly give up personal data without providing direct access to their Mac. They are simply coerced or tricked into providing the information themselves. There are dozens of clever variations on the Nigerian Mail Scam – some of which are very clever.

PROTECTING DATA IN FLIGHT

The most effective tools we have for protecting data in flight also involve encryption. When you're sending confidential data, we strongly recommend avoiding the use of public Wi-Fi hotspots. Any traffic that goes from your Mac to the

wireless access point can be intercepted and read by a third party. That party doesn't need to be a network expert – there are many tools that make the process of capturing wireless data little more than clicking a few buttons.

When using secure online services such as email and social media, ensure that the website traffic is encrypted. You'll be able to tell by the use of "https" on the URL and the presence of a small padlock icon adjacent to the web address in your web browser's location bar.

VPNs, or Virtual Private Networks, are also worth considering. These allow you to create an encrypted tunnel from your computer to a trusted service provider that then relays your data requests.

For example, if you were using a VPN to access www.macworld.com.au, then the traffic from your computer would be encrypted and sent to a third party that would securely send the request to the web server hosting *Macworld Australia*.

SYSTEM UPDATES

Software development is rarely perfect. Many applications and Mac OS can have flaws that are undetected in testing that result in security flaws. For that reason, it's important to ensure that your software is up-to-date and that all security-related updates are installed promptly.



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THE DEATH OF ENTERPRISE FAXING IS GREATLY EXAGGERATED

BY ANTHONY CARUANA

Are you still using a fax machine? It's hard to believe that this almost obsolete technology still has a place at the heart of many businesses. Some companies insist on receiving paper documents, which means the process of faxing remains important, albeit less used.

And if you think everything has to be high-tech to work – the 1988 protest in Tiananmen Square and 2011 revolution in Egypt were fuelled by humble fax machines.

Faxing does offer some advantages over email. The ability to easily generate

delivery reports is often considered important and, depending on the type of document being sent, the legal status of faxes may be different to email.

Incredibly, some recent research suggests that there are 130 million fax machines still in operation globally and more than six million are purchased annually. To put that in some context, Apple sells about four million or so Macs each quarter.

In other words, to paraphrase Mark Twain – rumours of the fax machine's death have been exaggerated.

For most businesses, scanning and email have supplanted faxing. But that doesn't mean faxing has to be completely abandoned. There are online services that act as a bridge that allow you to send faxes from your email. These gateway services aren't free, but if your faxing needs are only occasional they are less expensive than buying a fax machine.

If you need to send and receive faxes,

then online fax services such as eFax or UTBox are worth looking at. The prices vary depending on how many faxes you expect to send and receive.

eFax delivers inbound and outgoing fax services to your Mac and iOS devices. There's a free 30-day trial that delivers the full gamut of its services including the ability to choose your own fax number and the capacity to send 150 pages and receive 150 pages of faxes. If you like the service, it costs \$12.95 per month.

UTBox lets you port existing fax numbers to its service or choose your own number. Like eFax, there's a free 30-day trial with annual packages starting at \$59.95 if you pre-pay.

mBox is a reseller of eFax's service but offers it up for \$9.95 per month after a free 30-day trial. That cost reduction drops the sending allowance to 20 pages and receiving allowance to 130 pages.

If you still prefer to stick with pieces of paper or need to fax physical documents, then it may be time to look at multifunction devices or small desktop scanners.

There are literally hundreds of multifunction devices to choose from that support faxing as well as copying, scanning and printing. Unlike most of the consumer models on the market, business and enterprise units will let you send documents to the device for faxing direct from user desktops.

Small desktop scanners like the Fujitsu ScanSnap 1300i are handy as well. They allow you to quickly scan multi-page, duplexed documents straight to email so they can be sent out using fax gateway services.

Although email has made a huge dent into the use of fax machines (and post as well) we're not likely to see the end of faxing any time soon. Many financial and legal institutions still prefer faxes. So, until then, we'll need to ensure our businesses have access to faxing. It just may not be through the traditional fax machine.

FILE SHARING AROUND THE OFFICE AND THE WORLD

BY ANTHONY CARUANA

There was a time when file sharing meant handing a 720k Floppy disk around the office – what we affectionately called 'sneakernet'. Over time, our needs grew to zip disks, CDs and DVDs. But today, we often need to quickly share large files, often gigabytes in size, with colleagues and clients right across the world.

So, how can we share files easily?

THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY

It may seem low tech, but copying files to a USB stick or some other media and popping them into the post is a viable way of moving large files. In cases where either the sender or the recipient is constrained by bandwidth and delivery of the data isn't time critical, it may just be easier to copy the data to some media and either courier or mail it.

Of course, we'd recommend ensuring that the storage media is appropriately secured with the files encrypted and any passwords sent separately.

EMAIL

Email is easy, but many email gateways and services limit the size of attachments in order to manage storage and network traffic. In general, we'd suggest checking with the recipient if anything over 5MB will get through. Although there may be restrictions in place, it is possible to get them lifted if the need is urgent.

The trouble with email is that it's not a very efficient way of sending large files. Depending on your email software you may even find your computer is tied up for a while as the attachment is uploaded for sending.

CLOUD STORAGE

If you use an online cloud storage service such as Google Drive, Microsoft SkyDrive or Dropbox, you can share files from those services without needing to attach them to an email.

Log into your online file storage service using a web browser. Choose the file you wish to share and locate the sharing option that's available.

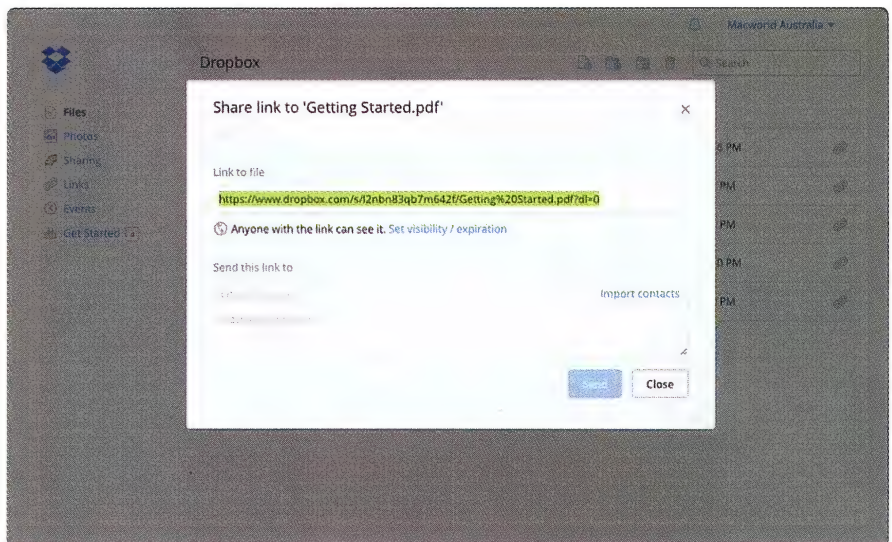
Depending on your preferred service you can choose whether to send the file as an attachment or provide a link to the file. Access to the file can be password protected so that it's not exposed to the wrong eyes.

ONE-OFF FILE-SHARING SERVICES

If you don't use a cloud storage service but can see how one would be useful for sharing files from time to time, then you can look at some other services.

Hightail (formerly known as YouSendIt), Senduit, File Dropper, WeTransfer and others allow you to upload a file that is stored online temporarily. The recipients receive a link so they can download the file at their leisure. The size of the files you can send this way for free vary from 100MB to 5GB or more.

You can password protect the links you send and set expiry times so that the files are only available for a limited period



of time, providing some extra security and ensuring your files aren't stored on someone else's servers indefinitely.

ROLL YOUR OWN

If you have a server or Network Attached Storage (NAS) device, you can allow access to files on those devices from outside your network. You can either create a web server or use a protocol like FTP to make files inside your network available to outsiders.

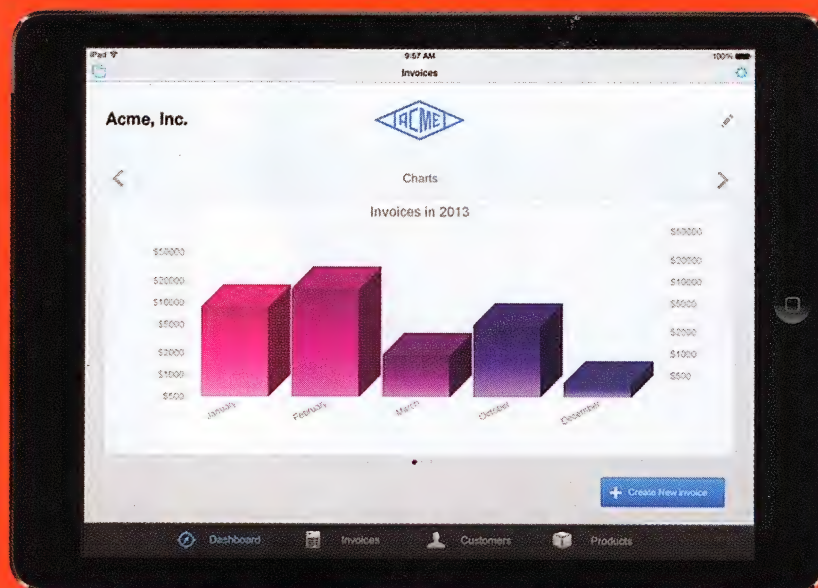
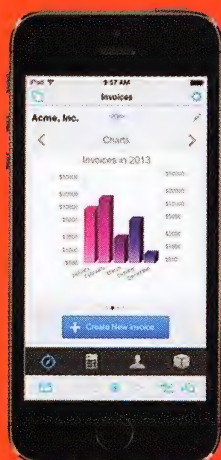
The process will vary depending on your equipment and network configuration, but will consist of these four key steps.

- enable access to the server or NAS from outside the local network by changing settings on your router or firewall device
- enable a file-sharing protocol such as FTP or create a web server on the server or NAS
- copy the files to a specific folder, so that the chance of other files being accidentally shared is minimised, and create a username and password so that access to the files is limited, and
- test it all out thoroughly before sharing it with a client

With this approach, you retain all the control, as you're not reliant on an external service provider. And, if you're worried about security, you retain the ultimate power – you can pull the plug!

Accounts - multi-company & currency, parent child, multi address, integrated google maps, CRM - **Payroll** - payrun, superannuation, superannuation adjustment, next of kin, company, department, class, multi-award, RDO, cost splitting by department, multiple bank accounts, leave loading, allowances, child support, leave loading, rebates, salary packaging, commission structures, salary sacrifice, workers compensations, unlimited super funds per employee, annual leave, long service leave, carer & personal leave, future leave, accumulators, employee log file, Statement of Leave, payrun log, service, loan, reversals, capital allowance schedule - **Job Projects** - resources, activities, time sheets, allocations, job project invoices, job project credit memos, details, cost, analysis, job project financials, planning and quoting, billing, GL budget, resource & project gantt charts, tracking notes - **Inventory** - manufacturing, bill of materials (BOM), size/colour style matrix, unlimited barcodes per product, formula pricing, hire, lay by, multi-shop, batch and serial number tracking, inward goods, arrivals & deliveries, resources, price-book, multiple locations, multi-department, open to buy forecasting integrated emailing, document management, integrated soft phone. Sales reps, quotes, orders, invoices, requisitions, purchase orders and purchases, delivery run maintenance, dashboards, show reports, stocktake entry, transfer entry, build entry, unit demand, manifest, manager, asset purchase - **Management** - statement of position, months activities, cash & account movements, tax calculation, auditing tools, FX currency settings - **Assets** - passwords, password management, location management, tax and company depreciation, serial number tracking, warrantee storage, insurance, trails, barcode, company and tax valuation, computer equipment details, disposal, purchase, revaluation, repair, service, loan, reversals, capital allowance schedule - **Utilities** - User access inquiry, system controls, master defaults, remote access defaults, co inquiry, department inquiry, task inquiry, organisation chart, work flow rules inquiry change menus and names, server administration, web server - **Workbook** - CRM, contact management, tracking notes - **System wide** - document management, CRM, contact management, tracking notes, wysiwyg report writers, SQL database, job server, web pack, query editor





THREE REASONS TO UPDATE TO FILEMAKER PRO 13: DATA CAPTURE, NETWORKS AND LAYOUTS

FileMaker Pro 13 has a number of new features for FileMaker users. From new designs to increased security, FileMaker Pro 13 is a significant step forward for the database solution builder.

New scripting features can have the biggest impact on your solution and on the time you spend scripting. There are a huge number of script steps, calculation functions and script triggers available in FileMaker Pro and while they will all have a positive impact on your solution, we have chosen to look at one of each that will boost your efficiency and offer problem-solving tools in FileMaker Go.

INSERT FROM DEVICE

Many business solutions utilise FileMaker Go, the mobile sidekick to FileMaker Pro for iPhone and iPad devices. FileMaker Go allows users to carry their database solutions with them wherever they go – whether they work on the road travelling from client to client, or in the office.

The Insert from Device script step allows these mobile users to quickly capture data, such as a barcode, photo, video, sound or signature. The selected content is automatically entered into a container or text field.

Storing a photo of a product or capturing a signature from a client with FileMaker Go keeps your database organised, makes data entry and retrieval easier and minimises the chances of losing important data.

Creating a scripted barcode capture solution is simple and straightforward with FileMaker 13.

GET NETWORK TYPE

Working in the office or warehouse and having trouble connecting to your FileMaker Server? A new calculation function that can be used in FileMaker 13 solutions is Get (NetworkType), a function that will give users a better idea of the problem and how to solve it.

Added in the scripting stage, Get (NetworkType) returns one of four results pertaining to the network the database is currently using. The possible results are:

- '0' if the file resides on the iOS device
- '1' if the network type is unknown
- '2' if the device is using a cellular network, or
- '3' if the device is using a Wi-Fi network.

The Get Network Type trigger makes identifying the network the iOS device is connected to simple. Worried about the cost of syncing new data to the FileMaker Server over your cellular connection? With the aid of the trigger, you can choose to wait for a Wi-Fi network connection before syncing.

ONLAYOUTSIZECHANGE

With the OnLayoutSizeChange script trigger, developers can create enhanced interfaces depending on device orientation. This new script trigger is mainly targeted at FileMaker Go but also works in FileMaker Pro and FileMaker WebDirect when the window size is adjusted or when it is first opened.

In FileMaker Go, the script trigger allows the developer to create a landscape view and a portrait view that is automatically selected when an iOS device is rotated.

This offers a user the option of arranging a differing layout in both portrait and landscape views. One that is more productive for specific data input. For example, you may like to increase the clarity in portrait mode by aligning all of the buttons along the bottom of the display and leaving the rest of the screen open for data input fields.

The script trigger will work in Browse and Find modes.



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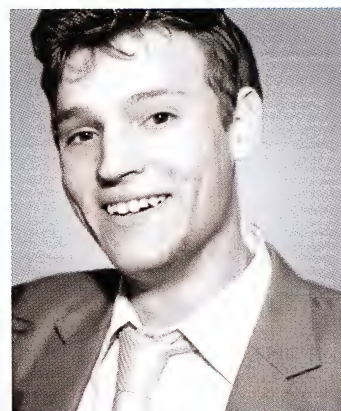
The new home for business-minded Apple users on macworld.com.au

While many Mac, iPhone and iPad owners use their devices for purely personal pursuits, there are those who document, record and share as part of their day to day work. What are the most efficient and effective hardware and software options for your needs? How can you start using it immediately to drive sales, connect with colleagues, create powerful presentations, reduce communication charges?

We examine the latest technology for enterprise users to help you make the best use of your time and resources for your business.

Jonathan Stewart - Editor of Macworld Australia

We started this section as we appreciate that technology is a critical foundation for the success of your business.



macworld.com.au



APP GUIDE

Cool software for the iPad, iPhone & iPod touch.



TOTAL WAR BATTLES: SHOGUN

GAMES

SEGA

IPHONE & IPAD \$2.49

Total War Battles: Shogun isn't just a worthy successor to the popular *Total War* strategy games, it's easily one of the most beautiful, detailed and enjoyably addictive strategy games on iOS. The game combines real-time tactics with turn-based strategy creating a rich, deep experience for the user compared to the quick play sessions that dominate the iOS game market. The chess-like battlefield is beautifully crafted, providing just the right amount of detailed graphics so it doesn't clutter the screen. The cartoonish game requires patience, a mature understanding of tactics and a deft hand to combat the complex battle mechanics. *TWB* offers campaign, multi-player and skirmish modes. The main missions can take as little as 10 minutes or a full hour to complete.



TOP PICK

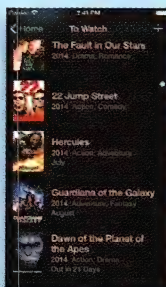


TODOMOVIES 3

ENTERTAINMENT

Taphive

IPHONE FREE



With its recent 3.1 update, the premium ToDoMovies 3 app has become one of the star movie managing masters available on the App Store. The beautifully laid-out manager monitors what movies you want to watch, notifying you when new films are being released, and helping you discover classics you may have missed.



STAR WARS: COMMANDER

GAMES

LucasArts

IPHONE & IPAD FREE



The latest collaboration between Disney Interactive and Lucasfilm presents two parallel games within one. Choose to play for the Empire, or for the Rebel Alliance with this free-to-play combat strategy game. For fans of all parts of the *Star Wars* universe, *Star Wars: Commander* is easy for beginners to pick up, has enough depth to keep experienced gamers immersed, and is rich in story detail.



PHOTO SPHERE CAMERA

PHOTO & VIDEO

Google

IPHONE FREE



The 360-degree Photo Spheres panorama option is now available on iOS. Photo Sphere Camera is sleek and speedy, mirroring the Android-influenced design found in the company's other programs. Creating a Photo Sphere is simple enough if you have a few minutes to spare. You can view your new photo by scrolling around or by tapping the compass button to use the accelerometer to turn your device around the scene.



SWING COPTERS

GAMES

Dong Nguyen

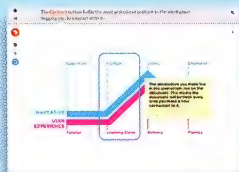
IPHONE & IPAD FREE



The latest from the creator of *Flappy Bird*, Dong Nguyen, is *Swing Copters*, a game that is built very much in the same mould as his previous game but is much tougher. Sadly it's not nearly as much fun as *Flappy Bird*, and without any carrot to pull you through the initial moments and generate an addictive streak, playing just feels like being hit repeatedly with the stick.



FOLIA
PRODUCTIVITY
Branchfire
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This free iPad app is made for writing and creating, and to connect your words to ideas that support them. The 'authoring tool' lets you link to other webpages, yes, but also to other documents in any number of file formats.

In addition, you can even annotate the documents that you are linking. The result? Documents that convey 'richer connections' than the same old hyperlinks you're used to.



FORKS OVER KNIVES – THE RECIPES
FOOD & DRINK
Monica Beach Media
iPHONE & iPAD \$6.49



Veggie lovers will find a lot to like in this \$6.49 app: it includes 130 recipes from 20 chefs with new recipes added regularly. All recipes embrace the 'whole food plant-based' lifestyle that can help stave off obesity and diabetes. It features step-by-step instructions that will prepare you to craft breakfasts, lunches, dinners, desserts and everything in between.



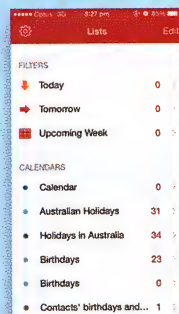
SLIDE BUREAU
PRODUCTIVITY
Jackson Fish Market
iPAD FREE



This free iPad app was already a pretty nifty alternative to PowerPoint. So you'll be glad to hear version 2.0 launched with some even niftier new features including the ability to set a presentation to autoplay, sharing a presentation as a single webpage, and exporting content as a PDF, JPG or MP4 video. There are also new templates and a number of use interface improvements.



CAL LIST
PRODUCTIVITY
Yaniv Katan
iPHONE & iPAD FREE



Some of us don't want fancy calendars. We just want an agenda with a straightforward list of what we're doing, where, and when. Cal List, a free offering for iPhone and iPad, offers just that: your calendar, displayed as a list of upcoming events. Birthdays and holidays can be viewed as separate lists, and you can email or text a list to a friend.



MAX GENTLEMEN
GAMES
The Men Who Wear Many Hats
iPHONE & iPAD FREE

Max Gentlemen's unique and completely loveable world gives it an appeal that breeds loyal fans. The app, produced by Chicago-based team The Men Who Wear Many Hats, has charted an odd, winging path to the App Store. The producers were behind 2012's zombie-themed *Organ Trail: Director's Cut*. The endearingly peculiar game requires you to scroll your character along the counter to grab mugs of beer, while simultaneously choosing which hat to send skyward. This balancing act challenges your timing and hazard management abilities to stack as many hats as possible for a higher score. If you're an indie gamer, you'll fall in love with the aggressively silly stories, pleasantly ridiculous scenarios, and the fitting art design and music. *Max Gentlemen* is free on iOS, Android and PC/Mac/Linux.



**TOP
PICK**



Aquapac Waterproof Case for iPad

This case is made of TPU – allowing normal touchscreen function. It also sports a built-in screen protector, high-frequency welded seams for a strong seal, and an easy-access opening that uses three levers to keep your electronics safe during use. It also provides safe access to the headphone socket. The Waterproof case comes with a shoulder strap, and desiccant to absorb condensation.

Aquapac / £50 + shipping / aquapac.net

**GEAR
GIZMOS
GOODIES**

GADGETGUIDE



Silo Mesh Card

A unique Australian product, the Mesh Card is “the world’s lightest, thinnest and strongest protective wallet”. Made from titanium and scratch-resistant TiCN coating, the ‘wallet’ has a removable silicone band for holding cards and notes. At 1.5mm thick, Mesh Card is also a smartphone stand, bottle opener and even helps shield your credit card from RFID theft, while still enabling contactless transactions.

Silo
\$89
studiosilo.com



Flux Capacitor USB Car Charger

Originally an April Fool's Day prank from ThinkGeek, the Flux Capacitor USB Car Charger won't really take you back to the future, but it does plug into your vehicle's power outlet to provide two USB ports enabling you to charge two iPads at the same time – all the while entertaining you with replica lighting from the original trilogy. Great Scott!

ThinkGeek
US\$24.99 + shipping
www.thinkgeek.com



BenQ VZ2350HM

The BenQ VZ2350HM is one of three recent releases from BenQ. The 23in monitor features a 1920 x 1080 AH-IPS panel, equipped with a 20M:1 Dynamic Contrast Ratio, Flicker-free technology and HDMI high-speed multimedia interface. The monitor has built-in speakers, and audio/video inputs include D-sub, DVI-D, HDMI and Line-in. The BenQ has a 5ms grey-to-grey response time.

BenQ
\$199
www.benq.com.au



iOgrapher for iPhone 5/5s

The iOgrapher turns your iPhone 5/5s into a filmmaking tool designed for serious camera work. The case sports two handles designed to steady your iPhone while shooting footage, two cold-shoe mounts at the top for lighting or microphones and a mount for any standard tripod. The casing also allows lenses up to 37mm to be attached to the iPhone camera.

iOgrapher
US\$49.95 + shipping
www.iographr.com



Yantouch Black Diamond3 Bluetooth Speaker & Mood Lamp

The Black Diamond3 is a wireless Bluetooth disco in a box. The 2.1 speaker system features a Base Resonant tube in a church organ pipe-like design. It plays for up to 10 hours on a single charge, pulsing to the music with shifting combinations of up to 16 million colour shades. Let your 'music you can see' dream come true!

Yantouch
\$99
www.buzzgadgets.com.au



FRESHeTECH All-Terrain Sound

The All-Terrain Sound is a Bluetooth speaker that aims to be among the roughest, toughest accessories you own. It is weather-, dust- and waterproof (IPX-5 rating). The speaker can play up to 12 hours on a charge of its lithium battery, and it includes an industrial strength clip and a microphone that lets you use the speaker as a speakerphone.

FRESHeTECH
US\$79.95 + shipping
www.freshetech.com



Ten One Design Magnus Air

The Magnus Air is a desktop stand for the latest-generation full-size iPad. It features a rubberised-magnetic grip, so your tablet won't slip, and it lets you display your iPad in portrait or landscape orientation. It's a nice companion for a wireless keyboard, or you can simply use it to prop up your iPad for video or photo viewing.

Ten One Design / US\$39.99 + shipping / www.tenonedesign.com



CAPTURING THE MOMENT

The rise of the iPhone turned us all into budding photographers, but there's more to great photography than just tapping a button and hoping for the best. There are a number of apps and gadgets on the market that will boost your shots. ADAM TURNER takes a look.

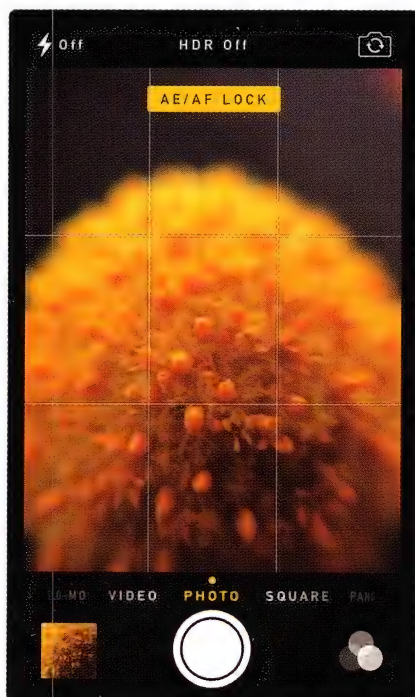


With a smartphone or tablet always in arm's reach, it's tempting to document every waking moment of our lives but, when it comes to great photography, less is often more. Before you press the shutter button, consider what you might do to transform your quick happy snap into a treasured memory fit to hang on the wall.

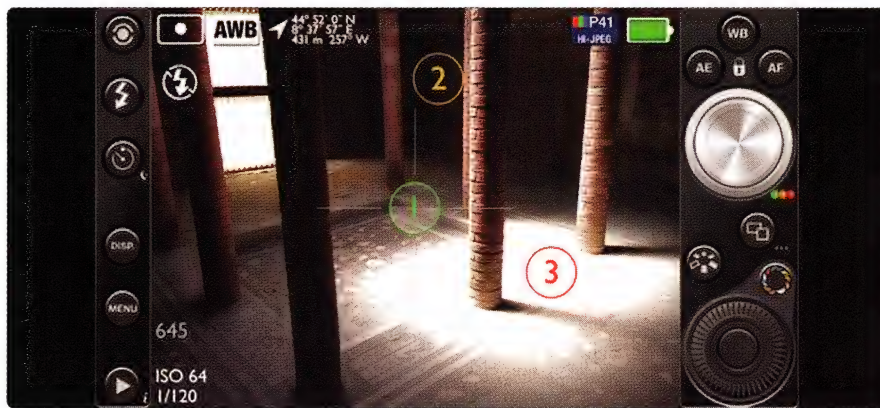
There's a treasure trove of great photography tools in the App Store, from alternative camera apps, which add professional features, to hipster image filters and photo sharing services. You'll also find plenty of accessories such as tripods and detachable lenses to help you capture the perfect shot. If you'd prefer to stick with your trusty compact digital or hefty digital SLR, then your iPhone can act as the ultimate photographer's assistant.

POINT AND SHOOT

There are plenty of great third-party camera apps in the App Store, but before you jump in it's worth coming to grips with the advanced features of Apple's own Camera app.



Focus in. When you tap and hold on a point of the screen to lock the focus in Apple's Camera app, the yellow AE/AF lock box appears.



Adjustable. 645 PRO Mk II offers users the choice of varying focus and exposure points in a photo.

Apple's Camera app automatically adjusts the exposure and focus when you point it at your subject, ensuring your pictures look sharp while compensating for the lighting conditions. It's possible to override this by tapping on any object in your shot, but if you tap and hold it engages the AE/AF lock, so the exposure and focus settings remain fixed when you look around. It's a handy trick when you're struggling to focus on your subject or see the details in the shadows on a sunny day. Tap the screen again to disable the AE/AF lock.

The High-Dynamic-Range (HDR) also helps show up fine details in difficult lighting conditions by taking three photos with different exposures and combining them. It's important to hold the camera still, as if anything moves between shots you'll see blur in the final composite image.

HDR isn't very useful for photographing people who won't sit still. Instead you might look to burst mode, which takes several quick shots and lets you choose the best.

On the iPhone 5s, holding down the camera button (or the volume up button) engages burst mode, which takes 10 photos per second. It stores them in the camera roll under a single thumbnail, picking the one it believes to be the best shot of the bunch and offering you the option to delete the others. Holding down the camera button on an earlier iPhone captures a few photos per second, but you don't get the extra benefits of burst mode.

TURN PRO

If you're looking for more advanced features, it's worth checking out third-party camera apps such as ProCamera 7 and 645 PRO Mk II, which grant you more of the

manual controls you'd find on a standalone camera. Unlike Apple's Camera app, you can set separate focus and exposure points to help capture tricky shots.

Serious photographers will appreciate ISO control to adjust for different lighting conditions, along with histograms to see the tonal range in your shots. These apps can also save your images as TIFF files, retaining fine details, which are lost when your photos are compressed down as JPEGs.

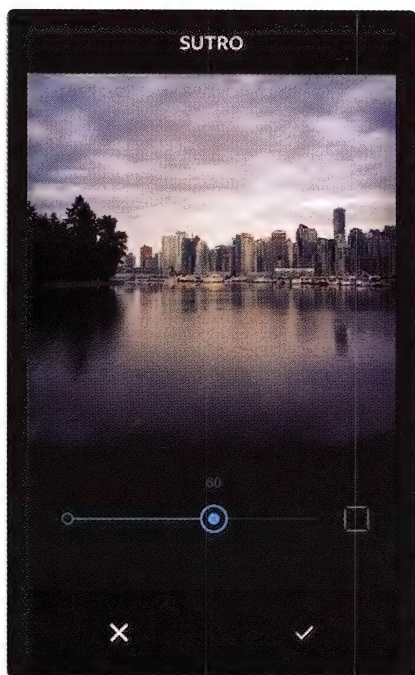
If you're keen to be in your photos, rather than being the person always missing from family portraits, look to camera timer apps such as GorillaCam and TimerCam, which give you time to jump into the shot. GorillaCam also lets you capture stop motion and time-lapse clips. If you're looking to capture long exposure shots, check out Average Camera Pro or Slow Shutter Cam.

The volume up shutter button trick also works using the volume controls on wired and wireless headphones, letting you take a shot without even touching your iPhone. To get the best results from these apps, you'll want a camera stand for your phone, which we'll get to in a minute.

GET HIP

Before you share your photographic masterpieces with the world, you may want to apply an arty filter to help your photos look old school.

Apple's Camera app has basic editing features and a handful of built-in filters such as Instant, Fade and Noir, which you can apply as you're taking the shot or afterwards in the camera roll. You'll find similar tools in the official iOS Facebook and Twitter apps, along with some third-party social media apps.



Soften the filters. The Instagram 6.0 update brought the ability for users to adjust the level of filter applied to images before posting.

Instagram drove the photo-sharing boom and features a wide range of filters along with the ability to crop and rotate images, as well as adjust the brightness, contrast, warmth and saturation. You can also tag people, add hashtags and post images to Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Flickr, or just share them with specific friends.

If Instagram's options aren't hipster enough for your liking, then check out the Hipstamatic app, which mimics an old analogue camera – loading film canisters, winding the film between shots and changing the lens to achieve a wide range of effects.

You'll also find Polamatic by Polaroid to mimic instant photos and add a range of filters, along with touch-up apps like Afterlight and Photo Editor by Aviary. If you're looking to master the art of the selfie, check out Snapchat, FaceTune, Selfie Cam and Selfiegram.

If you're after all-rounders that incorporate advanced manual shooting options, filters and editing tools, take a look at Camera+ and Snapseed. The one-touch Clarity feature in Camera+ is designed to optimise your shots and bring dull photos to life, in a similar manner to Photoshop's Auto Smart Fix feature, which improves colours and reveals details lost in the shadows.

If you're looking for more advanced image processing and lens options, check out Faded and VSCO Cam for extra sharpening, grain and vignette tools to add polish to your shots. Filterstorm adds support for layers, masks, curves manipulation and colour correction.

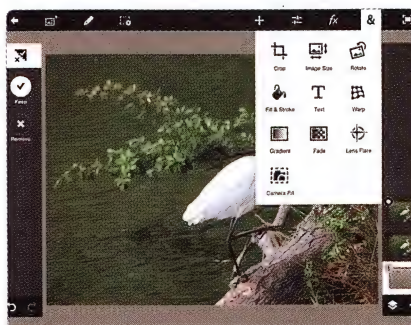
Color Splash makes it easy to create a black and white photo while leaving some areas in colour, while LensLight lets you play with the light to add lens flare, light leaks and spotlights, as well as bokeh background blur.

LOOK YOUR BEST

If your photos need more than a hipster makeover, you'll find a range of powerful photo editing apps for the iPhone.

Along with applying filters, Apple's Photos app offers basic editing features such as auto-enhance, red eye removal, rotate and crop. Once again you'll find similar tools in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. But if your images need serious work, you should look to apps like Adobe Photoshop Touch, which brings a surprising number of Photoshop's features to the iPhone, including Clone Stamp, Healing Brush, Magic Wand and support for layers.

Alternatives to Photoshop Touch include Photogene and Awesome GIMP Photo Editor. If you're looking to rework or manipulate your photos rather than just enhancing them, then check out You Doodle, as well as Instant Blend and Superimpose, which make it easy to blend photographs.



Mobile version. Adobe Photoshop Touch is jam-packed with advanced features and offers the control of layers, selections, transformations and adjustments that Photoshop artists are looking for.

ALL FOR ONE

Rather than sharing your photos one at a time, photo collage apps such as Insta Picframes and FrameUrLife let you combine several photos in the one frame to tell a story. They both offer a wide range of layouts, although Insta Picframes' final result is always a square, while FrameUrLife adds the option of a 2:3 or 4:3 rectangle in portrait or landscape mode. FrameUrLife also lets you add a fancy frame to your collage, while Insta Picframes incorporates advanced editing features for adjusting the brightness, warmth, contrast and saturation of each image, as well as tweaking the focus and removing red eye.

Other options like Pic Collage make it easy to clip objects from your photos, while Photo Wall Pro offers a wide range of layouts, which make it easy to produce greeting cards and invitations.

MAKE A STAND

If you're serious about your photography then it pays to accessorise. An iFriendly camera stand makes a great addition to your carry bag, so you can capture great shots on your iPhone when you're out and about.

iPhones don't feature a mounting thread for screwing on to a standard tripod, but thankfully there are several ways to get around this. You can look for a smartphone case or clamp with a built-in mounting thread like the SnapMount, XShot mobile phone holder, RetiCAM smartphone tripod mount or Joby



Mount up. The iStabilizer tabMount makes it easy to mount your iPad on a tripod.

GripTight. These let you mount your phone on any camera tripod. Alternatively, you can look for a tripod designed specifically with the iPhone in mind.

Choosing a tripod involves trading size and features against portability. If you're after a full-sized tripod to hold your phone up near eye height, then you may be better off with a standard tripod and an iPhone adaptor such as the Joby GripTight. Tripods designed for the iPhone are usually less than 30cm high – designed to help your phone sit upright on a flat surface rather than elevate it.

The ATC Universal is a traditional-style tripod, which stands only 6cm high, while the flat, credit card-sized Pocket Tripod – a Kickstarter project – slips out of your wallet and folds up into a tiny iPhone stand. You'll also find tripods with flexible legs designed to cope with more challenging environments.

Joby's GripTight GorillaPod stand has bendy legs, which you can wrap around a fence or pole to get the perfect camera angle, while the GorillaPod Magnetic adds magnetic feet.

CLICK THE BUTTON

To make it easier to press the shutter button on your iPhone, some third-party camera apps such as ProCamera let you tap anywhere on the screen. Meanwhile the Triggertrap app offers a quick release option, which captures the shot when you take your finger off the button – which helps cut down on camera shake. Triggertrap also offers timers along with the ability to take a shot by shouting at your phone or knocking on the table.

Apart from wired and wireless headphones, you'll also find dedicated iPhone camera triggers, which let you press the shutter button from afar, from the likes of Kootek, JBtek, iStabilizer and HISY.

LOOK CLOSER

If the iPhone's built-in camera lens isn't up to the task, you can easily strap on something more substantial to improve your view of the world.

Ollclip is another Kickstarter graduate, which offers a range of lenses that easily



Snappy additions. Ollclip has a range of lens kits for iPhones and iPads, including the Original 3-in-1 kit above.

clip onto your iPhone, such as the 4-in-1, which incorporates a fisheye, wide-angle, 10x macro and 15x macro lens in the one unit. There's also a 3-in-1 featuring a 7x, 14x and 21x macro lens, along with a standalone 2x telephoto lens with an adjustable polarising filter to cut down on glare.

Photojojo also offers a range of interchangeable lenses, which lock into an adhesive removable metal ring that attaches to the back of your iPhone. Options include fisheye, super fisheye, 2x telephoto, wide angle, macro and polarising – which you can buy separately or combined in a kit.

Other options include the iZZi Orbit iPhone case and iPro Lens System that let you attach a range of lenses to the supplied phone case. Meanwhile, the Kogeto Dot attachable lens lets you capture 360-degree panorama shots.

If you're ready to get wet, then look to an Optrix watertight case such as the PhotoProX, which supports four interchangeable lenses and is waterproof down to 10 metres.

GET A GRIP

If you're struggling to come to grips with the iPhone as a real camera, the Snappgrip case features a handgrip, shutter button, shooting mode dial and digital zoom control. It helps the phone sit in your hand like a small SLR and supports a range of detachable lenses. Meanwhile the Incipio Focal case helps your iPhone feel more like a typical compact digital camera.

The Manfrotto Klyp+ kit includes an iPhone case, lens kit and external LED light for improving your shots.

Alternatively, you may look to external flashes such as iblazzr or the wireless Nova flash, both Kickstarter projects.

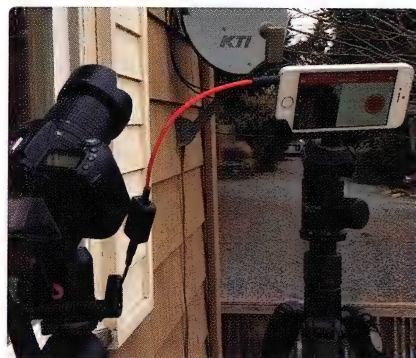
LEND A HAND

However good your iPhone may be, there are still times when you'll want to put it aside and reach for a serious camera from the likes of Canon, Nikon, Pentax, Olympus or Sony. But don't shove your phone back in your pocket, as it can serve as a handy photographer's assistant.

The Triggertrap app is primarily designed to work as a remote trigger for standalone cameras, either using Wi-Fi or the range of Triggertrap dongles designed to suit most cameras. When the app is controlling an external camera, you can use your iPhone as a sound, vibration or motion detector as well as access a range of cable release, time-lapse and HDR modes.

These days most camera vendors offer an iPhone app, which includes at least basic remote control features, sometimes adding remote access to the view through the lens along with the ability to wirelessly transfer images from the camera to your phone. You may also look to third-party apps such as Capture Pilot, which lets you preview your camera's shots on the iPhone during a photo shoot as well as rate and tag them.

Another option is the Wi-Fi-enabled Eye-Fi SD memory card, which works with any camera that accepts SD cards and lets you access the photos wirelessly from your computer, smartphone or tablet.



Tag along. Triggertrap Mobile uses the iPhone's camera to fire the DSLR's shutter when it detects movement.

Your iPhone can also stand in for many of the other gadgets in your photography bag. Apps like Pocket Light Meter, Fancy Light Meter and FotometerPro turn your iPhone into a makeshift light meter, while the Luxi Light Meter Adapter takes things a step further as an accessory that fits over the camera on your iPhone.

Of course there are plenty of other calculations to be made when you're a serious photographer. Apps like Triggertrap and Long Time Exposure Calculator offer neutral density filter calculators for determining long exposure times. Meanwhile DOFMaster assists with depth of field calculations, while PhotoCalc adds hyper-focal distance calculations, exposure reciprocity, flash exposure calculations and a sunrise/sunset guide. It's also worth installing a well-rounded PDF reader app on your phone such as GoodReader so you can carry around your camera's manual.

ON THE DESKTOP

Whichever gadget you use to capture your photos, you'll probably want to copy them to your Mac for safekeeping and a little extra editing.

Apple's iPhoto is useful for managing your photo library and editing images, but its insistence on importing all your images into one giant database file can be frustrating – especially when it comes to backing up your files. You can tell it to avoid importing your images, but if you still find iPhoto bloated there are plenty of alternatives.

If you just need a quick and easy way to copy images from your iGadgets to your Mac, dip into iPhoto's settings and tell it to open Apple's Image Capture app by default when you connect a camera. This makes it easy to copy your photos into sub-folders within your Pictures folder.

Google's Picasa is a handy alternative to iPhoto for managing and editing your photos, especially if you post images to Picasa Web Albums. If you're looking for more advanced editing tools then consider Adobe's Photoshop Elements, ACDSee, Corel Aftershot or the free GIMP – any of which should meet most people's needs compared to the expensive Adobe Photoshop CC.



Easy steps. Photo Stream makes it easy to share photos with your other devices, family or friends.

Prosumers looking for powerful photo library management features should weigh up Apple's Aperture against Adobe Lightroom. If you're going down the Adobe path, then the Creative Cloud software subscription may be a good fit for your needs.

PLAY IT SAFE

If you don't take the time to back up your photo library, then you could lose everything in a heartbeat. Copying your files to disc, USB stick, external drive or Network Attached Storage drive is a sensible precaution, but it's also important to keep an 'off-site' copy away from home to protect against fire, flood and theft. This is where the cloud can come in handy.

iCloud is rather limited when it comes to backing up desktop files. Sync services like Dropbox, Box, Google Drive, Amazon Cloud Drive and Microsoft's OneDrive are much more flexible and sometimes much cheaper. There are also dedicated backup services like Jungle Disk, CrashPlan, SugarSync, Cubby, Mozy and Carbonite. When you're evaluating them, start with a small data set and test it for a while before you take the plunge and upload your entire photo library – which could take days or weeks.

iCloud is more useful for backing up images from your iGadgets, plus you can use Photo Stream to sync images between devices, although it doesn't take long to use up your free iCloud allowance. Before you hand over money for extra iCloud storage, take a look at mobile apps such as Google+, Dropbox, Flickr and Amazon Cloud Drive, which can automatically upload your happy snaps to the cloud. Don't trust them until you've tested them – some are supposedly designed to run in the background, but can leave you in the lurch


if you haven't opened the app for a while.

Rather than backing up your mobile photos directly to the cloud, the PhotoSync app makes it easy to wirelessly back up your photos and videos from your iDevice to local or cloud storage. Along with Dropbox, Box, Google Drive, Picasa and Flickr, you'll find PhotoSync also supports FTP, WebDAV and desktop software for syncing wirelessly to Mac or Windows.

If you're looking to shuffle files to and from your iGadget, then also check out FileExplorer.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

Prevention is the best cure, but photo recovery tools still make a handy addition to your software arsenal. iExplorer helps pull images off your iGadget should a software update go pear-shaped, and you may find also photos hidden away on your Mac in your ~/Library/Application Support/MobileSync/Backup folder. Back up everything in that folder, rather than working with the originals, and then try changing the file suffixes to JPG and MOV to see which multimedia files you can recover. At this point, photo browsing software like XnViewMP for Mac can make life much easier, or IrfanView for Windows.

If you've accidentally deleted photos on your Mac or camera's memory card, then you'll need file recovery software, which tends to be expensive. Before you hand over any money, try the free PhotoRec from cgsecurity.org. If you are going to pay for recovery software, then look for software that offers a free trial or demo mode, such as R-Tools' R-Studio or Prosoft's Data Rescue 3, so you can see which files are recoverable before you spend that cash. 



Apple TV: The Home-Automation Hub?

To be truly user friendly, Apple's HomeKit framework will need some hardware.

At this year's Worldwide Developers Conference, Apple announced – among a great many other things – HomeKit, a suite of tools for controlling devices such as thermostats, furnaces and air-conditioners, lights, cameras, smart appliances, garage-door openers and security systems.

You'll be able to control them all from your iOS device. And it sounds great. Imagine your garage door sliding open and your back door unlocking as your car approaches the driveway, or the lights dimming and the fireplace blazing into action as you near the front door with your date.

But imagine this as well: you're halfway across the country on a business trip, and your kids call and ask if you can flip on the lights downstairs because they're afraid of the dark. Or a heat wave hits home while you're away, and you want to turn up the air-conditioning to preserve your Old Master hanging over the piano. Or – anticipating that hot date – you'd like to crank up the fridge to chill the champagne a bit more before you get home in an hour. How will you communicate with all those devices from your remote location?

OUT OF CONTROL

If you're familiar with the Nest Learning Thermostat, you know that using it remotely requires setting up a Nest account and downloading its app. Now

think about doing a similar thing with a dozen or more smart appliances. It would be a bother to dash from app to app. And do you really want to provide access to your home network and its devices to dozens of companies?

I have to think that Apple has more in mind with regard to remote access via HomeKit. The process shouldn't get ugly simply because you're not within range of your home's Wi-Fi network or iBeacon signal. You need something that will arbitrate between you at your remote location and the devices in your home.

"My Mac can easily do it!" you shout.

Possibly. But that arrangement shuts out potential HomeKit users who don't have a Mac or who don't relish the idea of leaving their computer running at all hours and consuming energy just for the ability to switch off the lights.

Wouldn't it be better if each home had a small, power-efficient, always-on, platform-agnostic, Wi-Fi-enabled computer that could talk to the other devices remotely and over a local network?

NOT JUST A BOX

Consider the Apple TV. Beneath that little box's rounded-rectangular shell is a computer running a form of iOS. One of the beauties of iOS (as well as OS X) is that it's modular. For it to take on a different kind of chore, it merely requires a new software component.

Current Apple TVs have processors too puny to handle home-automation


duties, and their storage is too limited to help work such miracles. Throw an A8 processor and some extra flash storage into a next-generation Apple TV, however, and you have a hefty hunk of hardware – one that could not only manage a home but also accommodate third-party apps for opening up the device to media and games.

The Apple TV could become the gatekeeper for your home's gear – appliances as well as traditional computing devices. Imagine a 'Back to My Mac' feature that could control everything on the network (and, unlike 'Back to My Mac', would actually work all the time).

It could also provide a layer of security. Rather than allowing each device to send the intimate details of your home to Nest, Honeywell, GE and – perhaps more significantly – Google and Facebook, how about storing all this information on the Apple TV, where it remains hashed for security?

When you need to make adjustments or receive reports, data transmits via the Apple TV. Your assorted smart appliances would remain dumb to any interaction other than that with Apple's home hub. Each device's original manufacturer would be none the wiser to your activities.

I've wanted a more flexible Apple TV for quite a while. With the introduction of HomeKit, that desire has become a raging passion. 🍌



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21 GEMS FOR THE MAC

Mac software isn't hard to find. The challenge is finding the right combination of features and price. We downloaded and tested more than 100 apps and have collected our top picks in the following pages.

Illustrations by Dale Edwin Murray

01
CREDITS

PRODUCTIVITY



DAY ONE

LIFESTYLE | BLOOM BUILT | \$12.99

The superb Day One makes keeping a journal easier than ever, thanks to smart features and a beautiful, welcoming interface. The app offers helpful (if generic) prompts such as "Do you have any favourite pets?" above each new entry window; these little nudges take away some of the pressure of seeing the empty space below. You can also fire off quick entries from an icon on your menu bar. Day One can gently remind you to write something – just tell it what time of day and how often you wish it to prod you. You can add photos and tag them with keywords and (optionally) your current location. The app lets you back up your journal to iCloud, Dropbox or the location of your choice; in my tests, syncing worked well after a few initial hiccups.

– NATHAN ALDERMAN



MARKED 2

PRODUCTIVITY | BRETT TERPSTRA | \$17.99

Marked is a fantastic utility that shows you a live preview of Markdown, HTML and XML files. The app provides a slew of keyword-highlighting features in its previews. It also includes default lists of overused phrases that it suggests you avoid or replace, but at any time you can add your own words and phrases too. Another useful highlighting feature is Visualize Word Repetitions, which highlights words you've used repeatedly. Marked can watch your text for passive voice as well, and it can provide document statistics such as the number of paragraphs, sentences and characters, plus readability metrics (reading ease, grade level and clarity). One of my favourite new features is the option to have Marked monitor an entire folder of text files, automatically previewing the one that you have edited most recently. And a new Preview Clipboard feature allows Marked to display a preview of the clipboard's contents – for example, if you've copied some Markdown or HTML text from a website or document.

– DAN FRAKES

NUMI

PRODUCTIVITY | DMITRY NIKOLAEV | \$12.99

Not much about Numi resembles a traditional calculator; it looks more like a text editor. But as you type, Numi scans for numbers and nearby arithmetic functions, and solves anything you throw at it. It's lightweight enough to rest in the menu bar or dock, but it feels like a freeform version of Numbers. You can easily edit and explain your figures, and Numi remembers your last state. While the app records quotients and sums as instantly as a standard calculator, things can get tricky, especially when you're dealing with multistep problems. Once you master Numi's unique language, though, you will never want to use Calculator again.

– MICHAEL SIMON

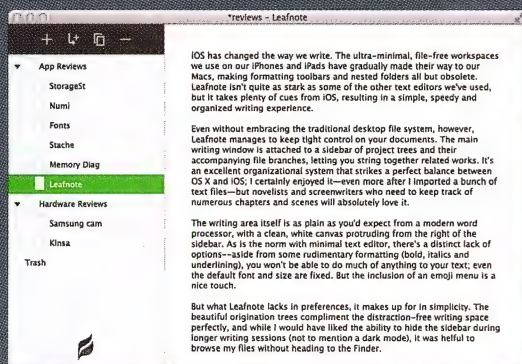
Vacation	
Hershey tickets: \$153.10	153.1
Sesame Place tickets: \$166.65	166.65
Total	319.75
CASH	
HP parking \$12 x 2	24
SP parking \$17 x 2	34
Souvenir Cup \$9.81	9.81
Total	67.81
FOOD	
Dinner (Day 1): \$35.47	35.47
Breakfast (Day 2): \$30.48	30.48
Dinner (Day 2): \$53.90	53.9
Total	119.85
	Quit

LEAFNOTE

PRODUCTIVITY | NEVERCENTER | \$6.49

The minimal, file-free workspaces we use on our iPhones and iPads have gradually made their way to our Macs, making formatting toolbars and nested folders all but obsolete. Leafnote isn't quite as stark as other text editors, but it takes plenty of cues from iOS in creating a simple, speedy and organised writing environment. The writing area is as plain as you'd expect from a modern word processor, offering a clean white canvas. As is the norm with minimal text editors, Leafnote has a distinct lack of options, aside from some rudimentary formatting (bold, italics and underline). Even the default font and size are fixed, but the included emoji menu is a nice touch. The main writing window is attached to a sidebar of project trees and their file branches, which let you associate related works. It's an excellent organisational system that strikes a perfect balance between the approaches of OS X and iOS.

– MICHAEL SIMON



INFOCLICK
PRODUCTIVITY |
NISUS SOFTWARE |
\$18.99

InfoClick is a supercharged search tool for Mail. When you first launch the utility, it indexes all of the messages in your assorted mailboxes. InfoClick's Normal interface includes six search fields, while the Detailed Search offers more options. Of course, you can use Spotlight to find email messages, and Mail's own built-in search tools are pretty good. But InfoClick allows you to construct tightly defined searches (for instance, messages with a specific file attachment on which your boss was copied but not directly addressed). It also offers a Not switch (so that you can find, say, all messages with a particular attachment that did not also go to your boss). If you're constantly searching for (and not finding) messages in Mail, InfoClick could make your life a lot easier.

– DAN MILLER

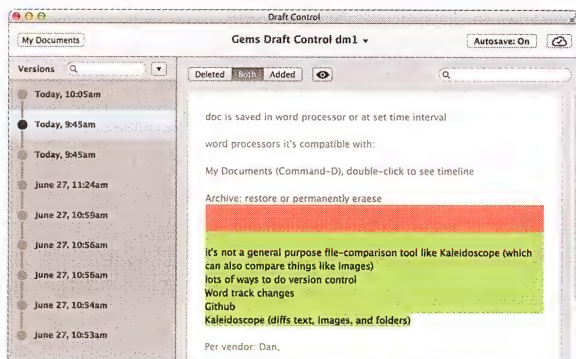


STACHE

PRODUCTIVITY | D3I | \$8.99

Bookmarking apps are hardly novel in this post-PC world, but Stache does its job a little differently. Stache delivers a personal experience that doesn't merely store your links – it creates a corner of the web containing only the particular sites you care about. You won't find the usual list of collected links; the interface has a definite Top Sites feel, with homepages and articles arranged as large previews in a neat grid. The app's visual layout lets you navigate a mountain of links in a flash, but it's even faster to use the search bar, which quickly trawls every webpage in its entirety to find the object of your query. You can manually enter URLs to store them in Stache, but the superior method is to use the convenient one-click Safari and Chrome extensions.

– MICHAEL SIMON



DRAFT CONTROL

PRODUCTIVITY | DRAFT CONTROL | FREE

If you want to track changes to plain-text or word-processing documents, just add them to Draft Control and, thereafter, whenever you save a document, the app will take a snapshot of that version. In its preview window, it colour-codes all additions and deletions. You can give the versions descriptive labels, and you can organise them into folders. Should you ever wish to roll back to a previous version, you can do so easily. Draft Control is a free download from the Mac App Store, but if you want to track more than one document, you'll have to pony up \$24.99 in an in-app purchase.

– DAN MILLER

MANAGE YOUR MAC



CLOUD COMMANDER

PRODUCTIVITY | DE VOORKANT | \$4.99

If your files are scattered among numerous cloud storage accounts, Cloud Commander decreases the insanity. Through it you can connect to your Bitcasa, Box, Copy.com, Dropbox, Flickr, Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive, Picasa and SugarSync accounts. It can also act as a WebDAV or FTP client. After connecting your accounts, you can open them in Cloud Commander, and then drag and drop files and folders around. Control-click or right-click an item to rename it, delete it or (for most services) get a sharable link to it. You can get a QuickLook preview, too, and you can open multiple Cloud Commander windows to copy files between accounts.

– JONATHAN SEFF

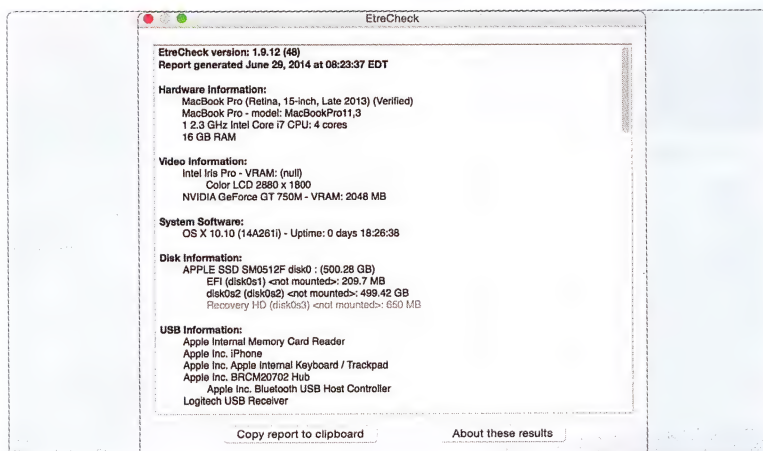
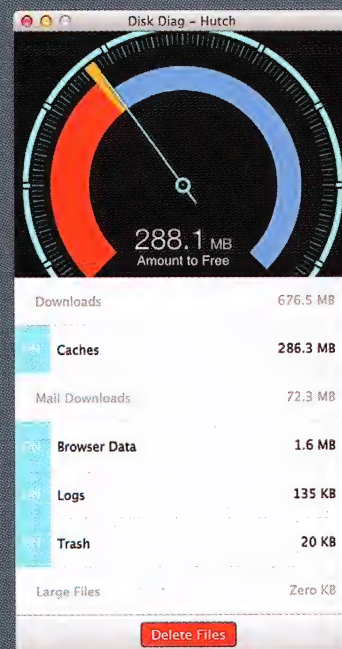
DISK DIAG

UTILITIES | ROCKY SAND STUDIO

\$6.49

The bigger hard drives get, the more likely it is that unwanted files will clutter up your disk. Launch Disk Diag, and in a few seconds it shows how much space it can free up for you. After you've made any necessary tweaks, sit back and watch as Disk Diag chews through its targets.

– NATHAN ALDERMAN



ETRECHECK

UTILITIES | ETRESOFT | FREE

EtreCheck collects statistics about your Mac's hardware, apps, kernel extensions and more. It samples your system to find out which programs are taking the most RAM and CPU resources. The utility's text report is neatly organised by category, and you can copy it to your clipboard and then paste it into an email, for instance, or on a help forum. EtreCheck quickly gathers data that normally requires poking around a dozen or so sources on your machine; it lets you focus instead on resolving your Mac's problems. Available via etresoft.com.

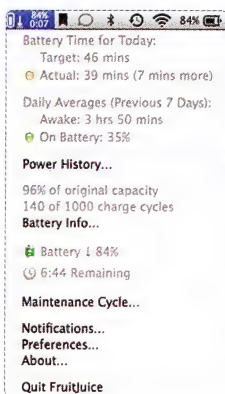
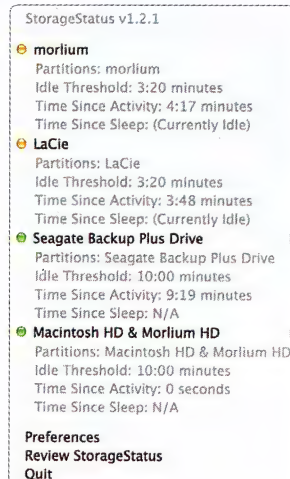
– MARCO TABINI

STORAGESTATUS

UTILITIES | SUBTLE B | \$3.79

No matter how much internal storage I have in my Mac, I still keep an arsenal of external drives for backups, music, videos and anything else I don't want bogging down my day-to-day machine. Once I've plugged those drives in, though, I tend to forget about them, to the point where I pull them out without ejecting the volumes first. StorageStatus hasn't just alleviated my absentmindedness – it has taught me to identify drive cycles so as to maximise efficiency. This app recognises any drive installed in or connected to your Mac, and puts icons in your menu-bar. When a drive changes state, the corresponding icon changes colour to indicate whether it is active (green), idle (yellow) or sleeping (red). You can customise which drives the app tracks and how often notifications appear, and you can instruct it to log activity to the Console app for investigation.

– MICHAEL SIMON



FRUITJUICE

UTILITIES | THE BATTERY PROJECT | \$12.99

FruitJuice aims to keep your battery healthy by telling you when and for how long you'll need to unplug your machine each day. FruitJuice tracks your previous week's battery behaviour and then recommends that you keep your laptop unplugged for 20 percent of the time you typically use it. You can configure a small but legible menu-bar icon to display how many minutes of unplugged time remain, and reasonably unobtrusive notifications indicate when you're free to plug in again. Clicking the menu-bar icon reveals a clearly structured and useful list of information and options. FruitJuice can also walk you through a once-every-30-days maintenance cycle.

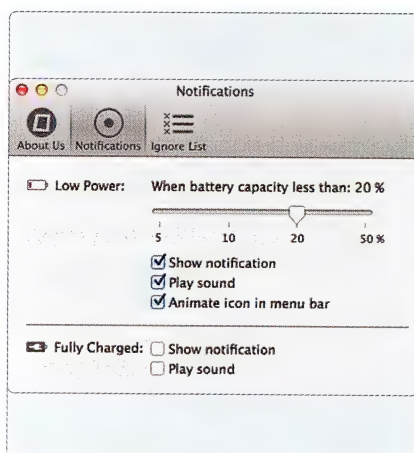
– NATHAN ALDERMAN

iBETTERCHARGE

UTILITIES | SOFTORINO | FREE

Using iTunes Wi-Fi syncing to keep tabs on your iOS device's battery, iBetterCharge gives you four options for notification thresholds: When your iOS device's battery reaches 50, 20, 10 or five percent of its capacity, you'll see a notification on your Mac reminding you to plug your device in. Other options include animation of the menu-bar icon and standard system alerts, all of which remind you to keep your battery where it needs to be so that you can use your iOS device all night. Well-designed and easy to use, iBetterCharge monitors your battery so you don't have to. Available via softorino.com.

– JEFFERY BATTERSBY

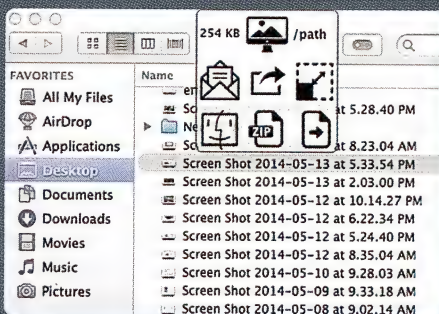


FILEPANE

UTILITIES | SERGII IAMKOVYI | \$6.49

Offering quick access to helpful actions, FilePane works not only with files but also with images and text on websites and in documents. Clicking and dragging any file, image or text block prompts a Drop Here icon to appear. Dropping the item pulls up a command box from which you can resize an image, print a file, create an archive or PDF file, send a file via email or AirDrop, or post the item to Facebook or Twitter, among other actions. It takes some getting used to, but it helps you cut out steps and work both smarter and harder.

– ANDREW HAYWARD



UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY



LIGHT UP

GRAPHICS & DESIGN |
RE:STACKS | \$3.79

With Light Up, you can load an image from a file and block out portions with a mask the darkness of which you can adjust. You can then carve sections – rectangles, rounded rectangles and ovals – out of the mask, thus highlighting parts of the underlying image. This app supports common image formats such as PNG and JPEG, but it does not support Photoshop files, nor does it let you capture an image from a webpage. Even so, it's a great, intuitive tool that focuses on a single task.

– MARCO TABINI

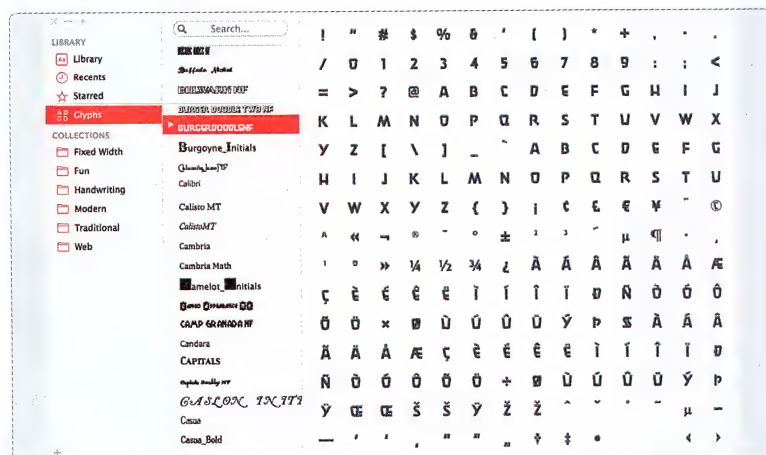


COLORSNAPPER

DEVELOPER TOOLS | KOOLESACHE | \$6.49

Apple's DigitalColor Meter utility magnifies the contents of the screen under the mouse pointer and lets you copy the RGB colour components of the chosen pixel. ColorSnapper takes the concept a little further. The app resides in your menu, where you can invoke it with a mouse click or a global shortcut. It runs quietly in the background until you call it into action, at which point it shows a loupe that magnifies the area around the pointer. Click to copy the colour of the pixel beneath your pointer to the clipboard in one of several formats, from bare RGB or HSL values to preformatted strings that you can use in a graphics editor or in a webpage's style sheet.

– MARCO TABINI

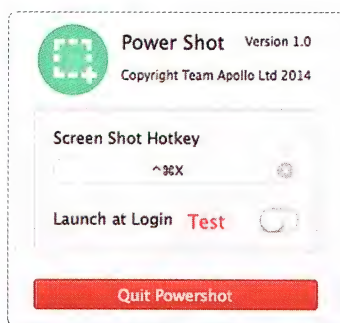


Fonts

GRAPHICS & DESIGN | BOHEMIAN CODING |
\$12.99

Keeping track of all your type sets can be a hassle. Offering an elegant interface focused on organisation, Fonts fills its iOS-style window with a list of every typeface it finds. Giant letter previews let you zip through dozens of fonts. Clicking one brings up a list of styled letters, numbers and symbols, plus sample paragraphs. You can skim variations by running your cursor across the square, too. I noted a few random display issues, but for the most part I browsed my sizable font collection with ease.

– MICHAEL SIMON



POWERSHOT

UTILITIES | APOLLO | \$1.29

The lightweight and efficient Powershot lets you set keystrokes for screenshots, target the areas a screenshot will cover, and specify what will happen to the image file. It also allows you to add elements and annotations to the finished product.

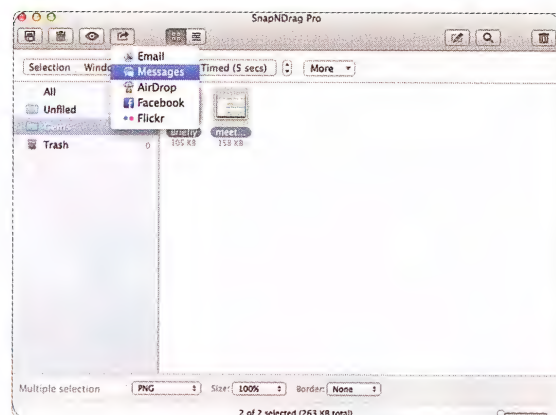
– CHRIS BARYLICK

WATERMARKER

PRODUCTIVITY | REACTIV CODE | \$9.99

If you're interested in stamping images with your imprint, Watermarker supports three types of watermarks: text, image and strike-through (diagonal lines crossing from opposite corners). You can control most of the aspects of your watermark, including its position, which you customise by dragging it or setting it to one of the corners or the centre. You can also change the font family and size (though not the style), and even the watermark's opacity. To apply watermarks to multiple images at once, you simply drag multiple files in, tweak the settings as you like, and then drag the images out to a Finder window. Watermarker will even rename the edited images.

– MARCO TABINI



SNAPNDRAG PRO

UTILITIES | YELLOW MUG SOFTWARE | \$6.49

SnapNDrag Pro simplifies the screenshot capture and organisation processes. It supports several capture types, including selection, window, screen and timed. You can rename your shots individually, or you can select several and use the Batch Rename feature to give a name and sequence number to every image. What makes this app a standout is its support of multiple screens with separate Spaces and annotation of original images when you open them within the SnapNDrag Pro app.

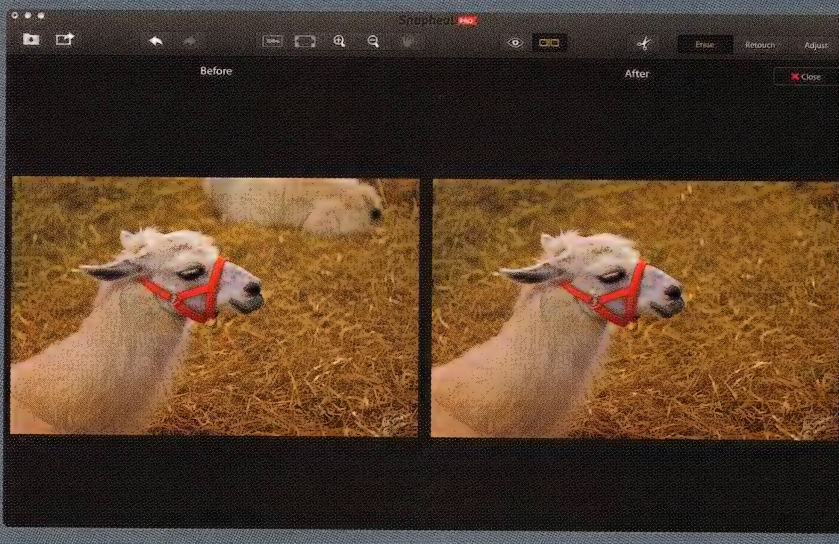
– JEFFERY BATTERSBY

SNAPHEAL

PHOTOGRAPHY | MACPHUN | \$18.99

Snapheal lets you tweak an image's technical parameters, adjust exposure settings and remove unwanted features. After you select an unwanted area, the app can use algorithms to replace that portion with content cloned from elsewhere in the photo. Because Snapheal lets you apply its various tools to certain areas, you have absolute control over the final look, and you can create 'hyperreal' images. The Pro edition, available via the developer's website, has more sophisticated algorithms, but both apps are excellent.

– MARCO TABINI



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Beyond the Basics: OS X's Advanced Printer Tools

BY TOPHER KESSLER

Setting up a printer in OS X is usually as simple as plugging it in to your Mac or connecting to a shared printer on the local network. But OS X also offers some advanced options for connecting and managing printers. Here's a rundown.

ADD SHARED PRINTERS ON THE FLY

While you can add a shared printer available to your system using the Printers & Scanners pane in System Preferences, you can also do the same from the Print dialogue box in any document. In the Printer drop-down menu under the standard Print dialogue box, you will see a submenu labelled Nearby Printers. Choosing a printer from that list will let OS X automatically install its driver and set it up for use.

In this way, you can quickly print to a number of different devices, instead of first setting them up in System Preferences. Note that these quick-access options are available only for printers using Apple's Bonjour networking, and that they will not necessarily work for models using other communications technologies.

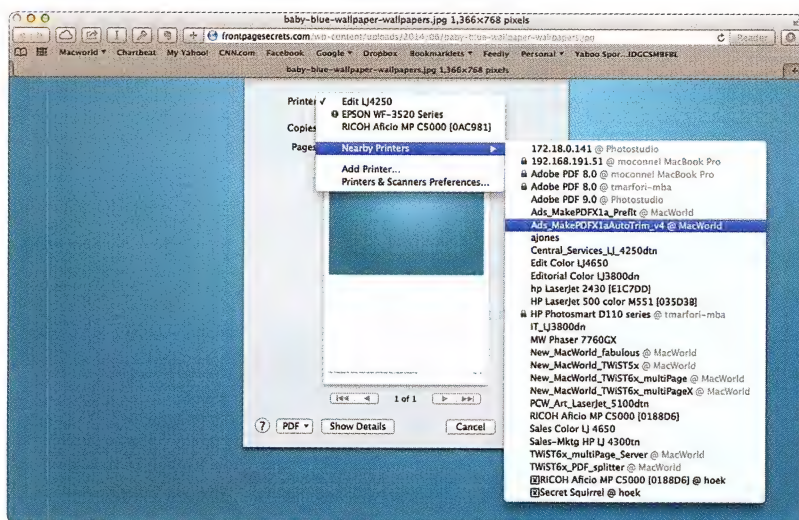
PRINTER POOLS

At times you may have access to a number of different printers, both shared units and others that are locally available for your Mac. In these cases, you may find it convenient to group them into specific printer pools. Such pools create a single virtual printing device from several available printers; the system then picks one printer from among all the available ones in the group to handle your print job.

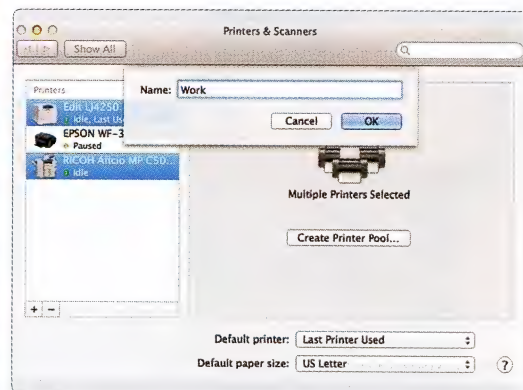
To set up a printer pool, open the Printers & Scanners pane in System Preferences, and hold the ⌘ key while clicking the various printers you would like to group together. With multiple printers selected, you will see a Create Pool button instead of the general information and configuration options for each printer.

Once you have named and created the pool, it will appear in the list of printers, and you can easily share it on the network just as you would any other printer.

You can use a printer pool in a couple of different ways. First, you can use it locally, where you create a pool on your Mac consisting of shared and local printers available to you, and then print directly to it. Second, you can create the pool on another computer (such as a dedicated print server) and then share that pool on the network. Unlike the first option, which you have to set up on each Mac separately, a



Quick access. Print to different devices using the Nearby Printers menu.



Pool them. Select multiple printers and group them into a pool that serves as one virtual printing device.

shared printer pool is available as a single device on the network, which you can configure quickly.

Using these options you can, for example, have a pool of printers in an office, with a single Mac managing the pool; all employees print to the pool through that particular Mac. If one of the pooled printers is offline, the pool will distribute print jobs among the remaining online units.

CUPS CONFIGURATION

You can use the CUPS web interface to access various advanced configuration options for your printers. You manage this interface locally, and you can easily access it by navigating to the URL <http://127.0.0.1:631> or <http://localhost:631> through any web browser.

At first you may see a 'Web Interface Is Disabled' warning. If you do, just follow the on-screen instructions and run the following command in the OS X Terminal: `cupsctl WebInterface=yes`. Then refresh your web browser, and you will gain access to the CUPS configuration interface. (To disable this web interface, simply rerun the above command but replace `yes` with `no`.)

In the web interface, you can use the tabs at the top to manage individual printers or entire printer

classes (pools). While the options in this interface may at first seem either redundant or too advanced in comparison to the Print & Scan pane in System Preferences, it does offer some useful tools.

View activity logs. Your Mac has an error log and an activity log for all configured printers, which you can use to troubleshoot printer issues or track down where print jobs came from. This feature is exceptionally useful for system administrators; buttons to access these logs should be available in the Server section of the CUPS Administration tab.

Allow or deny users print access.

Although you can define which users are allowed to access a shared printer in the Sharing pane of System Preferences, Apple's graphical user interface offers no way to restrict local-user access to the printer. You, however, can do this in CUPS. Simply select the printer in the Printers tab, and then choose Set Allowed Users from the Administration drop-down menu. You can enter short usernames separated by commas, and then opt to allow or deny those users access to the printer.

Add or change printers in a printer pool. You cannot drag new printers

into an existing printer pool in the OS X interface, but you can add and remove them in CUPS. To do so, click the Classes tab and then select your printer pool. Next, choose Modify Class from the Administration drop-down and, holding down the \mathbb{A} key, select multiple printers in the list of members. Clicking the Modify Class button will change the printer pool configuration.


Move paused print jobs to another printer.

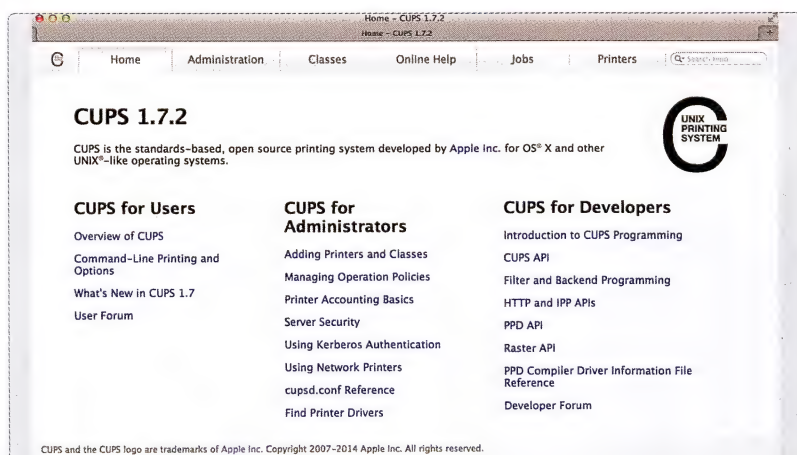
If you've sent a print job to a printer and it is paused by an error, you can go to the Jobs tab in the CUPS interface and click the Move Job button to the right of the print job. Next, choose a new printer in the list and click the Move Job button to assign the job to that new printer.

Subscribe to printing events via RSS.

If you are an administrator, you can click the Add RSS Subscription button at the bottom of the Administration tab. In the next screen, you can select from a number of different events to view, such as job starts, job stops, job deletions, and more. Check the appropriate boxes for the specific events you want to learn more about, and then name and create the feed. The URL to the feed will appear on the main Administration page; clicking that link will open the feed within any standard RSS reader.

RESET THE SYSTEM

When configuring your Mac's printers, if anything goes wrong you can always reset the print system to revert the entire printer configuration back to a factory default setting. To do this, first open the Printers & Scanners pane in System Preferences, and right-click the printer list. The contextual menu that shows up will have a Reset Printing System option. Selecting this (and then confirming that you want to reset) will clear out all configured printers and have you set them up again from scratch. 



CUPS system. The CUPS web interface gives you access to a number of advanced configuration options.

STM READER TIP

Share files via iMessages from the Finder

While you may know you can send messages from the Contacts app, you can also send messages from the Finder.

⌘-click (right-click) on any file in the Finder and look down the drop-down menu for Share. When you click it, you can share files via AirDrop, social media and email, depending on the type of file. You can also share most files with the Messages app.

Select Messages and you can begin your message with the file attached.

Peter Butcher



? DEVICES DISCONNECTING? IT'S ABOUT THE HUB, BUB

I recently purchased a powered 10-port USB hub because I have a lot of peripherals. I've used nearly all the ports for external devices – a webcam, some external drives, and so on. But when I plug in my camera, I see a message indicating that one of my hard drives has been disconnected, even though I haven't touched the cable or powered down the drive. Is the hub or the drive broken?

Micha Warwick

■ **EACH MONTH, STM** gives a prize to the *Macworld Australia* reader who submits the best and most useful tip (undocumented tips preferred). This month's prize is a comfortable and portable STM trust medium laptop messenger bag worth \$149.95.

Designed to carry your 15in laptop in a secure and uber-protective style, the trust can be relied upon for your everyday digital commute. Ample room for your lunch, an extra pair of shoes or even a small change of attire. Great for an urban excursion via bike, train or plane.

Features:

- protective front flap with lined pocket for phone or sunnies
- dedicated laptop compartment designed for a 15in screen – an easy grab for airport security
- organisation slip pocketing for paperwork and an extra battery
- front zip organisation panel for business cards, pens, keys, etc.
- internal see-through zippered pocket to hold all the doo-dads that tend to get lost otherwise
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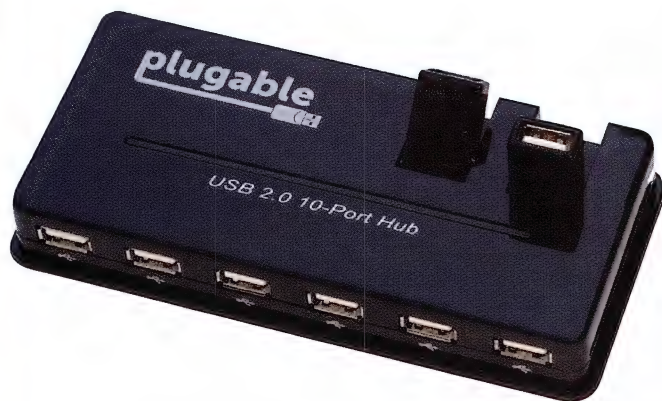


USB hubs are designed to provide a limited amount of power – say, 250 milliamps (mA) on average to 10 devices. As long as the power requirements of all the devices you jack into the hub fall under that total limit, all 10 of them should work fine. However, if you exceed the hub's limits – you've plugged in several devices that draw 500mA, for example – you can end up with the disappearance of one of the connected devices.

And how can you tell which devices are pulling a lot of power? Hold down the Option key, click the Apple menu and choose System Information. In the resulting pane, select the USB item under the Hardware heading. In the list of USB devices on the right, select the hub you've connected to your Mac. At the bottom of the window, you'll see a list of all your connected USB devices.

In this list, look for the 'Current Required (mA)' entry for each device. The number that appears here doesn't tell you how much power the device is currently drawing but rather how much power it's requesting the hub to provide. A printer, for example, may require very little power whereas a webcam or a media-card reader may want the full 500mA. (Some Apple devices such as iPhones and iPads

YOU CAN ASK THE **MACWORLD AUSTRALIA** TEAM ANY MAC- OR APPLE-RELATED QUESTIONS BY EMAILING EDITOR@MACWORLD.COM.AU. ANSWERS THIS MONTH BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN AND DAN MILLER.



Power hub.
The power requirements of all your connected devices should fall under the hub's total limit.

require more than 500mA at five volts so that they can charge rapidly.) Run through the list and do the maths. If your list of devices is pulling too much power from the hub, consider moving some of them to a different USB port on your Mac.

? REMOVE UNWANTED ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE FROM YOUR MAC

My wife recently took her Mac to the company where she works as a contractor so that the IT department could install updates for some of the software she's required to use. When she brought the system back home, we discovered that they'd installed McAfee Endpoint Protection. Since its return, her Mac is locking up and she's having problems with her email. I have to think that it's the McAfee product. Do you know how we can uninstall it?

Tim Andrews

I do, but before I tell you how to go about that, a word of caution.

Although it would have been nice if the IT person had asked for permission before installing this software on the Mac (as it belongs to your wife and not the company), the business may require some form of antivirus software for any computer that interacts with its email system or has remote access to its servers. My first suggestion is to contact IT, explain the problems you're having and see if you can come to a mutually agreeable solution.

If that's not possible and you wish to proceed with uninstallation, launch

Terminal (found in */Applications/Utilities*) and, using an administrator account, enter the following command:

`sudo /usr/local/McAfee/ uninstall EPM`

Then press Return. Enter the account's administrator password and press Return again. If everything goes right, you'll see a message indicating that McAfee Endpoint Protection has been removed. However, McAfee Agent still remains. To get rid of it as well, enter this command in Terminal:

`sudo /Library/McAfee/cma/ uninstall.sh`

Press Return and then restart your Mac, and McAfee will disappear.

Should you face a similar situation with a different variety of software, it's always a good idea to see what's been added to the */Library/LaunchAgents* and */Library/LaunchDaemons* folders. Removing unwanted items from these two folders can often put an end to disruptive utilities that launch on startup. Of course, if you have an uninstaller app, it's all the better.

? STREAM YOUR MUSICAL PERFORMANCES ACROSS THE WEB

My family lives across the country and I'd like to perform a concert for them over the internet. I have a MIDI keyboard and I play through Apple's Mainstage 3. Is there some way I can stream my performance to them?

via the internet

I've tried this using a couple of different setups, and the one I've settled on is Rogue Amoeba's US\$59 Nicecast (www.rogueamoeba.com/)

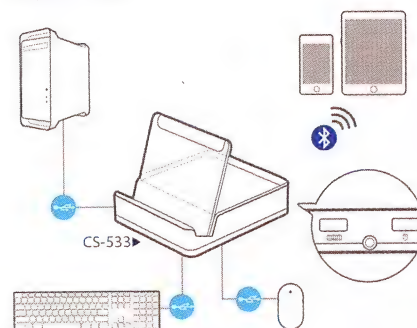
TAP Instantly between Mac, iPhone & iPad



Tap USB to Bluetooth KM Switch

Use your keyboard and mouse to control your iPhone, iPad and Mac from the Tap CS-533.

Setup >>> CS-533



- 1 CONNECT PERIPHERALS**
Simply connect your existing keyboard and mouse to the Tap via USB
- 2 CONNECT PORTABLE DEVICES**
Enable Bluetooth on your portable devices to allow for connection to the Tap
- 3 COMPLETE CONTROL**
Now Tap to switch control between your Mac, iPhone or iPad



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nicecast). This software lets you use any app as an audio source and stream its output over a local network or the internet.

Specifically, here's what you need to do. Download a copy of Nicecast. Launch it and click the Source button. In the pane that appears, click Select, choose Select Application, and navigate to Mainstage. It should launch. (If it doesn't, launch it yourself and then choose it from the Select pop-up menu you just clicked on.)

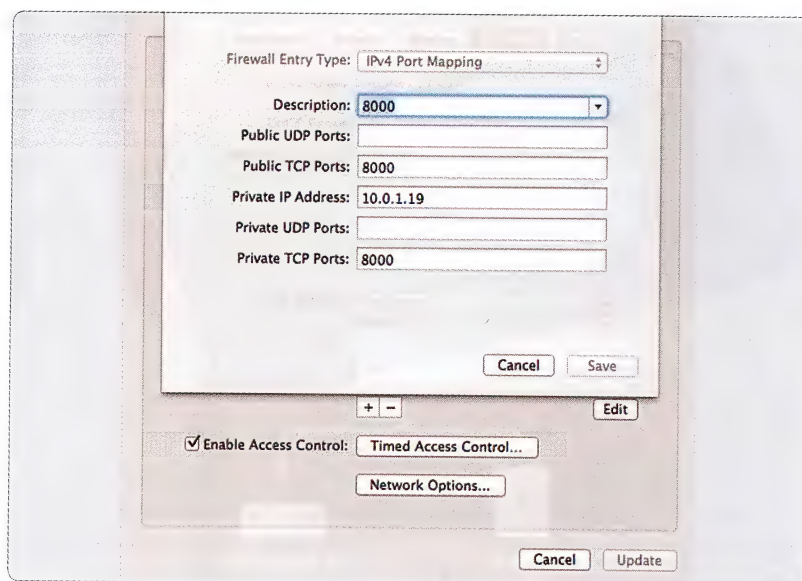
Now click the Share button. In the resulting pane, you'll see the addresses for your stream – one for the internet and another for your local network. Click the Copy button to copy the internet address to the Mac's clipboard. Paste that address into an email or text message that you then can share with your family so they know how to tune in to your stream. (They can do this via a web browser or, if they're Mac users, they can launch QuickTime Player, choose *File > Open Location*, and then add the address to the resulting field and click Open.) You'll want to coordinate the time of your performance with your audience so they know when to tune in.

When it's time to start performing, just click the Start Broadcast button and begin banging the keys. You'll know that Nicecast is receiving Mainstage's output when you see the Level meter light up. You should be able to hear your playing as you normally do – likely through headphones or speakers attached to your Mac. Depending on the speed of your connection, people tuning in to your performance will hear it begin a few seconds later.

You may also need to configure your router so that Nicecast can do its job. Specifically, you may have to open up port 8000, which is the avenue Nicecast uses to broadcast its output.

If you have an AirPort base station, the process goes like this: launch AirPort Utility, click the base station

A nicer configuration.
Open port 8000 on the router to use Nicecast.



attached to your broadband modem, and click Edit. Click the Network tab in the resulting pane and in the Port Settings area click the plus (+) button.

In the sheet that scrolls down, enter a description in the same-named field (Nicecast has a nice ring to it) and enter 8000 in the Public TCP Ports and Private TCP Ports fields. In the Private IP Address field, enter the IP address of the Mac that you'll stream from. (You'll find the IP address in System Preferences' Sharing preference.)

Click Save and then choose Update to configure the base station with these new settings.

The past couple of weeks, my MacBook Pro's fan has been going crazy, coming on suddenly and roaring like a jet taking off. I opened Activity Monitor to learn what was giving my CPU such a workout, and I saw that Google Chrome Helper processes were consuming 50 percent or more of my CPU resources. Is there anything I can do about this?
Daniel Mueller

I wish I could offer a silver-bullet solution, but this is a problem for a number of Chrome users; ultimately the solution will have to come from Google's Chrome team. That said, I can think of a few things for you to try. Choose *Chrome > Preferences >*

? TREAT A PROCESSOR-HOGGING CHROME BROWSER

TIP: REVEAL MAVERICKS' HIDDEN SCREENSAVER IMAGES

In the Finder, choose *Go > Go to Folder*, enter */Library/Screen Savers/Default Collections/* and click Go. In the resulting window, you'll see four folders: National Geographic, Aerial, Cosmos and Nature Patterns. These folders hold all the images for the screensavers of the same name.



You have a couple of ways to make the images appear as desktop backgrounds. You can select an image and choose *Finder > Services > Set Desktop Picture*. Or you can launch System Preferences, open the Desktop & Screen Saver preference, click the Desktop tab, and drag those four folders into the bottom of the image selection area. When you select a folder here, the images it contains will appear on the right. Select the one you want to use as your Mac's desktop background.

Extensions and disable any extensions you don't absolutely need to run. In this same window, click *Settings > Show advanced settings*, choose Content settings in the Privacy area, and in the Plug-ins area of the resulting window, enable the Click to play option.

While you're there, click the Disable individual plug-ins link (or enter [Chrome://plugins](chrome://plugins) in the address field) and disable plug-ins that you don't absolutely need. As the Adobe Flash Player plug-in appears to be one of Chrome's primary processor hogs, I'd suggest disabling it first.

Run Chrome for a while. If your Mac's fans start spinning again, choose *Window > Task Manager* and click the CPU heading. You'll get a readout of which Chrome elements are diverting your processor's attention from more

important jobs. If you spy some that you can afford to switch off, do so.

If, at the end of all this, you find that you've basically disabled all those features that you liked about Chrome, turn to another browser until Google comes up with a solution.

? CONNECT AN APPLE TV TO ANALOGUE SPEAKERS

I just put a small television set and an Apple TV in my bedroom and connected the two with an HDMI cable. The problem is that the sound from the TV's speakers is really poor. I have a pair of powered speakers, though. Is there some way to connect the Apple TV to them?

Glen Lanier

The Apple TV has a digital audio output, and your powered speakers have an analogue audio input. You can't simply string a cable between the two devices and expect sound to come out of the other end.

Instead, you'll need to use a digital-to-analogue converter. To make this arrangement work, string a Toslink cable between the Apple TV and the converter. Then connect the converter and the speakers by using an analogue cable. With proper cabling, the Apple TV will send its audio to the speakers.

A converter like this needn't break the bank. I have a similar setup in my bedroom and I got the job done for around \$30 (I already owned both the cables and the speakers). ☑

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Smartwatches

With the launch of the Apple Watch delayed until early next year ANTHONY CARUANA has looked at three smartwatches on the market today.

Trakdot

The Trakdot promises a lot. It supports both iOS and Android smartphones and looks a lot like the popular Pebble. But it lacks some of the polish of the Pebble and the iOS app had us scratching our heads on several fronts.

The Trakdot is distributed in Australia by Kogan. Like the Pebble, it has three buttons on one side and one on the other, although the orientation is reversed. The LCD screen is a similar size to the Pebble, although the entire watchface is a little thicker.

Set-up starts by loading an app on your smartphone – we used an iPhone 5s. The instructions, which like most Kogan products need to be downloaded as they're not included with the product, directed us to a website that loaded an app independently of the App Store. However, iOS was smart enough to tell us what data and services the app was accessing, such as contacts, calendar and reminders. A quick scan of the App Store revealed the same app was available there, but we couldn't get that version of the app to connect.

The app was clearly converted from another language, as some of the settings were a little cryptic or grammatically creative. For example, we're not quite sure what the setting 'Motor' was for. We could use the app to customise the watchface. For example, we could have the watchface show the time, weather and unread text messages.



The watch itself works reasonably well. The LCD display is reasonably clear, although it was a little difficult to read in strong light. It's easy, however, to reverse the display to show light text on a dark background, rather than the default.

We did find the watch laggy; for example, if we changed a setting on the app, it could take a while to show on the watch.

The included pedometer is a nice extra and the app provides real-time feedback on your speed and distance – handy for occasional exercisers.

Bottom line. In our view – we'd rather spend the extra \$20 and get the Pebble, as it's a more polished product that's supported by a developer community. But if you're after a basic smartwatch that delivers alerts it's adequate – particularly if you can find it in one of Kogan's frequent sales. We found it discounted by \$44 at the time this review was written.

Samsung Gear Fit

Samsung has had a few cracks at the smartwatch game and it has clearly learned a lot from the experience.

The main use-case for smartwatches is receiving notifications. The Gear Fit handles this easily. Inbound SMS and messages from other services such as Facebook are displayed on the watch and you can even reply using the canned responses programmed into the watch. For example, if you receive a message, you can, with just a couple of taps reply with "I'll call you back later". However, we'd like the ability to modify those canned messages.

The Gear Fit crosses the bridge between the smartwatch and fitness band categories. There's a pedometer built into the Gear Fit, so you can track your steps and a heart rate monitor that works via a light sensor on the back of the watch. These features make it a useful tool when exercising. We took it on several runs and it was handy for tracking distance and intensity, although the pedometer is not a perfect measure of distance.

We compared the heart rate monitor with a chest strap system and found that while the average heart rate it measured was close, the highs and lows were more extreme on the Gear Fit than on the chest strap. In our view it passes the 'good enough' test for recreational exercisers.

Other than the touchscreen, there's just one button on the Gear Fit. This returns you to the home screen and you can configure a double-press to being you to a favourite function.

Unlike many smartwatches, the Gear Fit looks quite elegant and not at all like a



\$129 / KOGAN

www.kogan.com/au

PROS Multi-platform; cost

CONS Mono display, iOS app, slow interface



\$249 / SAMSUNG

www.samsung.com/au

PROS Great display; easy to use

CONS Android only



OUTSTANDING



VERY GOOD



GOOD



FLAWED



UNACCEPTABLE

59

geeky gadget. However, it is annoying at times. Most of the time, the screen is off and only activates when you move your wrist to a viewing position. We found that it occasionally lit while we were asleep – there's a sleep quality monitoring feature – and disturbed us when in lighter sleep.

The downside: the Gear Fit won't work with your iPhone. In fact, it only works with specific Samsung smartphones and tablets. We tested it for several weeks with a Samsung Galaxy S5 and were very impressed. The Gear Fit works with Samsung's S Health app that is designed to be a central point for gathering your health and fitness data. It works reasonably well, although we're yet to find the perfect health app. In particular, we found the food tracking part of the app hard to use when compared to apps for the Jawbone UP and Fitbit.

Bottom line. The Gear Fit is an attractive smartwatch that offers a good balance between form and function. The OLED (organic light-emitting diode) display can be customised and the touch interface is intelligently arranged, so that you are rarely more than a tap or two away from accessing most functions.



Pebble

It would be pretty easy to make an argument that the modern smartwatch era began with the Pebble. Launched as a Kickstarter project – until recently it was the crowd funding site's most successful, raising in excess of \$10 million or more than 10 times its target – it is so popular that you'll find it in vending machines at airports and resorts in the US.

The Pebble doesn't care whether you use an iPhone or Android device – it works well with both platforms. Connectivity is via Bluetooth LE, so notifications are transmitted from your phone to the watch using the least possible power. The iOS app is easy to use and provides a connection to the Pebble app store.


Out of the box, the Pebble does little more than tell you the time, display alerts such as incoming calls, messages and reminders, and let you answer calls by using the buttons on the side of the rectangular display.


However, Pebble has taken a similar approach to Apple's with iOS and has made tools and APIs (application programming interfaces) available, so that developers can create their own apps for the Pebble platform. This includes integration with popular social media services, fitness apps like RunKeeper and alternative watch-faces that can give you the weather and your next appointment right on your wrist.

The apps aren't limited to simple alerts – you can use the Pebble to control your iPhone's camera, smart lights

like the Philips Hue and your phone's media player. The latter ability is particularly handy when you're playing music through wireless speakers.

Although it lacks a touchscreen – now a feature of almost every other smartwatch – the Pebble is easy to use. There are three buttons on the left side and one on the right for accessing settings and interacting with information on the screen. In order to keep things relatively simple, the Pebble limits you to just eight installed applications at a time. You can move apps in and out of the watch using the iOS app.

Since its initial release, Pebble has increased its product range. The base level Pebble has a plain black band and plastic face that can be ordered in several different colours. But there is also the Pebble Steel, made with a metal face and band that costs an extra \$100. Then there's the new Fly Pebble, which includes a coloured band for the same price as the original Pebble. 

Bottom line. Despite the monochrome, non-touch display, the Pebble hits the most critical function of a smartwatch – making information on your phone more easily available. The Pebble looks good and, with a custom watch-face, would not even be noticed, as it looks like a regular watch. 



\$149 / PEBBLE
www.getpebble.com

PROS Multi-platform; lots of style options

CONS Mono display; app support



Twelve South HiRise for iMac

With an endless procession of stands available for your iMac or Apple display, choosing the right one can be a daunting exercise. This is one worth your time and money.

Unless you've got just the right desk, there's a good chance you need to elevate your iMac or display to get it to the best ergonomic height – with your eyes about five centimetres below the top edge of the screen.

And while there are many options for elevating your iMac or display – from stands to piles of books – we've been testing Twelve South's US\$79.99 HiRise Stand for iMac for several months, and it's become one of our favourite desktop accessories, both as a stand for raising the display to a better height and as a nifty storage compartment to remove desk clutter.

With the exception of Apple's 30in Cinema Display, the HiRise works with any iMac, or any Apple display with a metal, L-shaped base. We have tested the HiRise on a 27in 2010 iMac and a 23in Apple Cinema Display connected to a laptop.

The sturdy, metal HiRise weighs under 2kg and is roughly 21.5cm wide, 21.8cm deep and 8.5cm tall. The front and rear plates are about 2.5cm wider than the HiRise's body.

Most display stands just provide a platform, but the HiRise integrates with your iMac or Apple Display's own base. Inside the HiRise are six slots

to accommodate an adjustable metal shelf. With the rear plate removed, you install the shelf in the slot that would position your display at the best height. You then slide your iMac or Apple Display base into the back of the HiRise so that it sits on that shelf, and attach the HiRise's back plate with the included screws. A cutout in the top of the HiRise, along the rear edge, allows the iMac or Apple Display base to exit the stand.


The HiRise and its movable shelf are solidly built, and the bottom of the HiRise sports slick, Teflon rails that allow you to easily reposition your display.

The stand also looks great, but what makes the HiRise especially useful is that you can pull off its front plate, which is attached by magnets, to access a two-shelf storage compartment (your iMac or Apple Display's base forms the bottom of the top shelf). This normally wasted space is perfectly positioned for easy access to storable items such as remote controls, a stylus, pens, paper notes and portable hard drives.

You can even have sync/charge cables for iOS devices connected to an iMac's USB ports and then thread them through the back of the stand. With a Cinema Display, you could use the HiRise to hide the power supplies and

extra cable slack for a laptop and/or the display – creating a power brick and cable-free desk.

The stand's perforated front and rear plates provide ventilation, and the HiRise's metal construction acts as a heat sink – on a laptop system, the two power supplies never get more than slightly warm. Also, if you want to make the contents of the HiRise a bit less accessible, you can secure the front plate using included screws.

Bottom Line. The HiRise for iMac is a useful accessory for your iMac or Apple Display, especially if you've been looking for a way to get a bunch of smaller gear off your desk and out of sight. 

– DAN FRAKES



TWELVE SOUTH

www.twelvesouth.com

PROS Six adjustable height settings; decent storage space creates desk space; compatible with most iMacs and Apple displays

CONS A bit expensive for a stand; can look a bit bulky with smaller monitors

US\$79.99 + SHIPPING



Moshi Digits touchscreen gloves

While we have passed through the winter months, a common problem still arises that's shared among iPhone, iPad, other smartphones and tablet users – frozen fingers. On those freezing days your digits can become quite cold when trying to use your phone or tablet outside or on public transport. And wearing standard gloves is not an option, unless you want to take them off every time you need to use your device. That's where touchscreen gloves come in, and the Digits touchscreen gloves by Moshi are one example that performs exceptionally well.


The Moshi Digits come in two different sizes/colours – dark grey (large) and light grey (small or medium). I tried the large gloves, which fit quite comfortably. Some of

the fingertips were slightly too loose, but the Griptrak pattern on the inside of the glove provides a slip-free grip, so the tips of the gloves could easily be pulled down to achieve a tight fit at the tips of my fingers.

All 10 fingertips contain the special conductive fibre that allows great manoeuvrability, and this was proven when testing a number of games and apps. I was surprised at just how well the Moshi Digits performed when zooming in and out of maps, playing games that require precise movement, and texting. You won't ever feel the need to take the gloves off and use your fingers uncovered.

The pattern on the outside is a bit cheap looking, but this is a minor issue. The gloves are very comfortable and warm, thanks to their soft micro

fleece lining. They are also 100 percent hand-washable.

Bottom line. The Moshi Digits touchscreen gloves are a perfect accessory for the cold days, providing precision control over your phone or tablet, while keeping your hands warm. 

– HARRY TUNNECLIFFE



MOSHI
www.moshi.com

PROS Responsiveness is excellent; warm and comfortable; fingertips stay in place easily

CONS Design pattern is lacking; only two colours

\$39.95



Zoom iQ5

Zoom's Lightning-connector iQ5 Professional Stereo Microphone may look a little plasticky, but it delivers solid sound in a perfectly portable package.

Today's iOS devices include mono microphones that are good enough for general-purpose recording – making voice and video calls, capturing audio notes and identifying tunes with Soundhound. But they're not ideal for situations where you need higher-quality audio, such as when recording podcasts, lectures or musical performances. In such situations, an external microphone is the way to go, and Zoom's iQ5 Professional Stereo Microphone captures good sounding stereo audio.

THE DESIGN

The iQ5 is a Lightning-connector microphone. It comes from the same company that makes the well-regarded H5 Four-Track Portable Recorder, and you can see the similarities in the design of the iQ5 as well as the free HandyRecorder app that works with it. However, unlike with the H5, which has two crossed microphones, the iQ5 bears a single perforated ball that contains the two microphone capsules. The ball sits atop the main unit, which hosts controls for adjusting mic gain and the width of the stereo field.

Beyond the ball, the iQ5 bears a number of other features. On the 'back' are two switches. The one on the left controls the stereo width and offers three settings: 90 degrees, 120 degrees and M-S. This M-S setting is a little confusing; it essentially disables the stereo-width setting when using

the HandyRecorder app, letting you adjust the width in the app, instead. If, however, you record from within with a different app, the stereo width is set at 120 degrees.

The switch on the right is for controlling the microphone's gain. The Auto Gain setting allows you to use one of the HandyRecorder app's three auto-gain settings: Concert, Solo and Meeting. The Concert setting is for loud sound sources, Solo is for quiet sources and Meeting is for non-musical sources. Flick the switch to the Limit setting and you can adjust the mic's gain with a Mic Gain wheel found on the side of the iQ5. If the audio coming into the mic is so high that distortion could result, the iQ5 attempts to limit the mic's gain. You can disable this limiting, but still set the gain manually, by using the Off setting.

On the left side of the iQ5 are Mini-USB and headphone ports. The USB port lets you charge (but not sync) your iOS device while the iQ5 is connected. The headphone port is for monitoring recording and playback; it's a nice convenience, as the iQ5 blocks the headphone port on some iOS devices.

If we have any complaints about the design of the iQ5 it's that the Lightning-connector port isn't the most robust anchor for accessories such as this. It's a minor complaint because it's the nature of the beast – Lightning connectors are small, and unless you want to junk up your accessory with clamps to more firmly

keep it in place, you're going to risk unseating it.

RECORDING QUALITY

Given that the iQ5 feels a little plasticky, we were surprised by how good its recordings sound. The mic doesn't offer the warmth or depth of a microphone with a much larger capsule, but for its size, the iQ5 does very well. We wouldn't hesitate to use it as an interview microphone attached to an iPhone. It can be a little sensitive to ambient noise – even when in the 90-degree position – but generally not to the point where you'll be distracted by that noise when listening to the resulting recordings.

Bottom line. For a small and not-terribly-expensive mic, the iQ5 performs remarkably well. With the help of the HandyRecorder app, it's also flexible. If you're in need of an easy-to-use and good-sounding microphone for your iOS device, give this one a try.

– CHRISTOPHER BREEN



ZOOM

www.zoom.co.jp

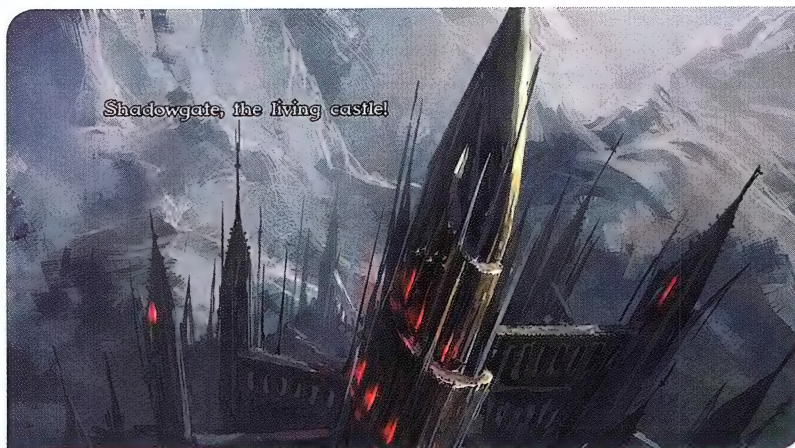
PROS Produces good-sounding recordings; flexible input-gain options; positionable microphone head; HandyRecorder app adds useful options

CONS Easy to dislodge from Lightning-connector port; HandyRecorder app's sharing options are limited

\$179.99

Shadowgate

This castle still wants to kill you, 25 years later.



"You have chosen poorly, young Jair," says the screen, flashing an image of grinning Death. I hate him. I hate his bony little skeleton face so much. I've seen it at least 10 times in the last hour and a half, each time listening to his snide comment about my demise.

I've been burned to a crisp by a dragon. I've been shot by an arrow from the dark. I've had a rickety wooden bridge burned from under me. Even non-lethal occurrences may as well be – I've heard the screams of a banshee and come under a curse, I've seen an enormous spider frozen to the ceiling, I've gazed upon the face of a demon.

Shadowgate is impossibly hard, and I mean that as a compliment (I think).

For the uninitiated, *Shadowgate* is a remake of – you guessed it – *Shadowgate*, a 1987 point-and-click adventure designed for the Apple Macintosh. You're an adventurer named Jair, and you've been called by the wizard Lakmir to free Castle Shadowgate, which has fallen to an unspeakable evil named Talimar the Black. It's a fantasy-style dungeon crawler of an adventure game, with you exploring old tombs and wielding swords and the like.

And it's hard, in the way that only late-80s/early-90s adventure games can be hard. *Shadowgate* doesn't even try to hide it, wrapping itself in delightfully obtuse holdovers from the olden days of adventure games.

Shadowgate has tuned the difficulty a bit by adding easier tiers, but even

these just allow you to futz your way through some of those puzzles for a few more turns.

It's hard. I cannot repeat that enough. There are going to be people who get stuck after playing the game for less than half an hour, clicking everything because the game doesn't highlight what items you can interact with.


And yet for all that old-school clunkiness, for all the torture it puts you through, I genuinely enjoyed *Shadowgate*. Puzzles tend to make sense in a fantastical *Dungeons and Dragons* manner, with few notable instances of adventure game logic. The game forces you to pixel-hunt a bit too much, maybe, but it's in keeping with its retro roots – this is the absurdly difficult, painful adventure game that fans of *Shadowgate* kickstarted.

The pain of pixel-hunting is somewhat assuaged by the fact that *Shadowgate* is absolutely gorgeous. Each new room in *Shadowgate* is a treat. A treat that's trying to kill you, like a poisoned lollipop or something. From damp dungeons to dusty tombs and lavish towers, the hand-painted art style implies as much as it shows and would look at home in a *Dungeons and Dragons* manual. It's perfect for conveying Castle Shadowgate and its often strange trappings.

Recognising the strength of the artwork, the developers have included my new favourite adventure game feature – Immersive Mode.

Press the default toggle key, F11, and the entire UI fades out – the miscellaneous clutter, the list of commands, the flavour text. You get an unobstructed view of the artwork, while mousing over any of the invisible UI elements will bring it back momentarily. It's a fantastic way to play the game once you've memorised the various command hotkeys and want to appreciate the spectacular views Castle Shadowgate provides.

Bottom line. Even if you're a veteran of the original, you'll most likely get stuck occasionally, considering the developers switched or tweaked most of the puzzles. You're going to die. You're going to be frustrated. You're going to have no clue what you should be doing, wandering at random between rooms.

This 2014 version of *Shadowgate* is really just the original *Shadowgate* with prettier graphics – it's unapologetically difficult and occasionally clunky, but all the more charming as a result. 

– HAYDEN DINGMAN



ZOJO!
www.zoji.com

PROS Fantastic, detailed artwork

CONS Easy to get stuck, even on simplest tier

US\$19.99; US\$29.99 (SPECIAL EDITION).
AVAILABLE VIA STEAM.

Foxtel Play

Cheaper Foxtel over the internet – with no home subscription or lock-in contract – sounds like a dream come true, but make sure you read the fine print.

Australian pay TV has always been expensive and a few years ago you wouldn't have believed that Foxtel would ever come to the party with an online service like Foxtel Play. Faced with a growing number of online rivals and the rise of the National Broadband Network, the pay TV giant has decided to move with the times rather than stick its head in the sand.

You can watch Foxtel Play via the Foxtel Go app for iPhone, iPad and some Samsung Android devices. Alternatively, you can watch in a browser on Mac or Windows, or access Foxtel Play on your television via the PlayStation 3 and 4, Xbox 360 and some Samsung and LG smart TVs and Blu-ray players. You can link up to three devices to your account and watch on two simultaneously. Telstra T-Box owners can also subscribe to some Foxtel channels, although it's a separate service to Foxtel Play.

The Foxtel Go iOS app is very slick, with access to live channels and Catch Up TV. You can't record shows – that requires a home subscription and Foxtel IQ box – but you can pause and rewind live broadcasts on computers, iGadgets and some home entertainment gear. Watching on an

iPad, each channel has a 30-minute buffer, so if you miss the start of a show you can jump backwards. There's no built-in AirPlay support for streaming to an Apple TV and Foxtel even disables screen mirroring, which is frustrating when you're a paying customer.

While Foxtel Play offers a slick user experience, unfortunately it's still built on the traditional pay TV package model – forcing you to pay for channels you don't want in order to watch the few that you do.

There are four basic packages – Entertainment, Drama, Documentaries and Kids – which cost \$25 each, but get cheaper if you subscribe to more than one. You need to subscribe to at least one of these basic packages before you can subscribe to either of the two \$25 Premium packages – Sports and Premium Movies and Drama. This means you're up for at least \$50 per month if you want to watch live AFL matches or *Game of Thrones*, at which point surely you'd have to consider paying the bit extra to get a full home Foxtel service.

Keep in mind you're also chewing through your monthly download allowance and you should allow around 1.3 gigabytes per hour of video, although you can scale it



back to 470 megabytes per hour on the Low quality setting. This data doesn't count towards your monthly download limit if you're using Telstra BigPond at home, although it's still metered if you're using Telstra mobile broadband.

Before you jump in, be warned also that each Foxtel Play package is missing a few channels compared to the equivalent home Foxtel package, so you'll need to study the list carefully to ensure you're getting what you want. Several live AFL matches are missing from Foxtel Play each week, for no other reason than the fact you're watching via the internet. You can't watch any live AFL matches on a Mac or PC.

Bottom line. Foxtel Play is a big step in the right direction and the apps are very slick, but it's still expensive and there are frustrating gaps in the line-up. It's a convenient way to watch Foxtel, but not necessarily a cheap one. Study the fine print carefully and weigh it up against competitors like Fetch TV before taking the plunge.

– ADAM TURNER

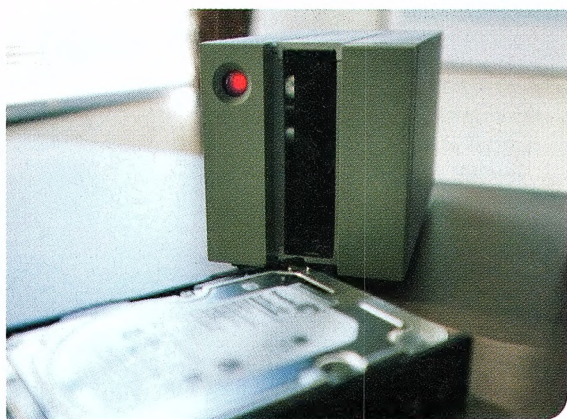


FOXTEL
www.foxtel.com.au

PROS No lock-in contract; iOS apps (no AirPlay support)

CONS Built around packages; some content missing

FROM \$25 PER MONTH



File write

LaCie 2big Thunderbolt 2 (2 x 6TB)	398
LaCie 2big (2 x 3TB)	361
CalDigit T3 (3 x 2TB)	564
OWC Mercury Elite Pro Dual (2 x 3TB)	341
G-Technology G-DRIVE raid (2 x 4TB)	303

File read

LaCie 2big Thunderbolt 2 (2 x 6TB)	351
LaCie 2big (2 x 3TB)	361
CalDigit T3 (3 x 2TB)	567
OWC Mercury Elite Pro Dual (2 x 3TB)	370
G-Technology G-DRIVE raid (2 x 4TB)	301

Results are in MBps; larger numbers/longer bars are better.

Photo from Michael Homnick.

LaCie 2big Thunderbolt 2

The device performs well for having just two internal drives but don't expect Thunderbolt 2 speeds.

LaCie updated many of its desktop drives to include the new Thunderbolt 2 specification, and while some of the drives retained the same external design, the 2big Thunderbolt 2 has quite a different look than before. It also features hardware RAID, a handy USB 3.0 port for increased versatility and a hidden compartment that conceals the ports and RAID selector.

The glowing blue 'eye' remains, albeit smaller, and functions as a power button for the new drive, as well as a drive status indicator. When connected via Thunderbolt, a short press of the blue power button puts the drive in standby mode; via USB 3.0, a short press puts the drive in power-saving mode. A long press of the power button shuts down the drive.

Swappable drive bays now load in front of the device instead of the rear, sliding on caddies that also serve as two-thirds of the drive's front face. At the top of each drive caddy is a small cutout for each drive's status light to shine through. You can easily remove the caddies from the drive by pulling down from the top of them; however, removing the physical drives from their respective caddies will void your warranty. Unfortunately, to preserve your warranty, you must buy spare drives from LaCie that come pre-attached to the caddies.

The 12TB unit we tested came populated with two Seagate desktop hard drives. They're standard 3.5in, 7200-RPM drives. (Seagate is the parent company of LaCie.)

The 2big Thunderbolt 2 is kept cool by a temperature-regulated fan mounted in the rear of the drive. The bottom of the drive has some interestingly-shaped rubber feet that keep the drive from sliding on a smooth surface and help minimise vibrations. A removable aluminium panel at the back left corner of the 2big Thunderbolt 2 covers up all the ports (a pair of Thunderbolt 2 ports, USB 3.0 and power) as well as the RAID controls.

Setting up the hardware RAID isn't very difficult. The drive comes pre-formatted as a fast (RAID 0) for the best performance and storage capacity. However, you can also choose safe (RAID 1), or JBOD (Just a Bunch Of Disks) using the RAID selection buttons located in the hidden compartment.

In our real world tests, the 2big Thunderbolt 2 marginally outperformed its predecessor when it came to writing, but reading from the drive was largely the same. AJA System Test showed more improvement, especially when reading from the new drive. To take

advantage of faster Thunderbolt 2 bandwidth, you need more than two mechanical drives. Having Thunderbolt 2, however, lets you daisy chain other Thunderbolt 2 devices.

Reading and writing to and from the 2big was consistently slower when using USB 3.0 as compared to Thunderbolt 2, even with just two drives. Still, it's nice to have both interfaces, especially considering the ubiquity of USB 3.0.

Bottom line. The addition of a hardware RAID is nice, and the drive feels much less top heavy than before. I'm not a huge fan of the removable panel in the rear, but if you don't need to fiddle with the ports very often, it shouldn't affect your purchasing decision. Since the 2big Thunderbolt 2 only has two drives, it doesn't really benefit from Thunderbolt 2's higher 20Gbps throughput capabilities.

— ALBERT FILICE

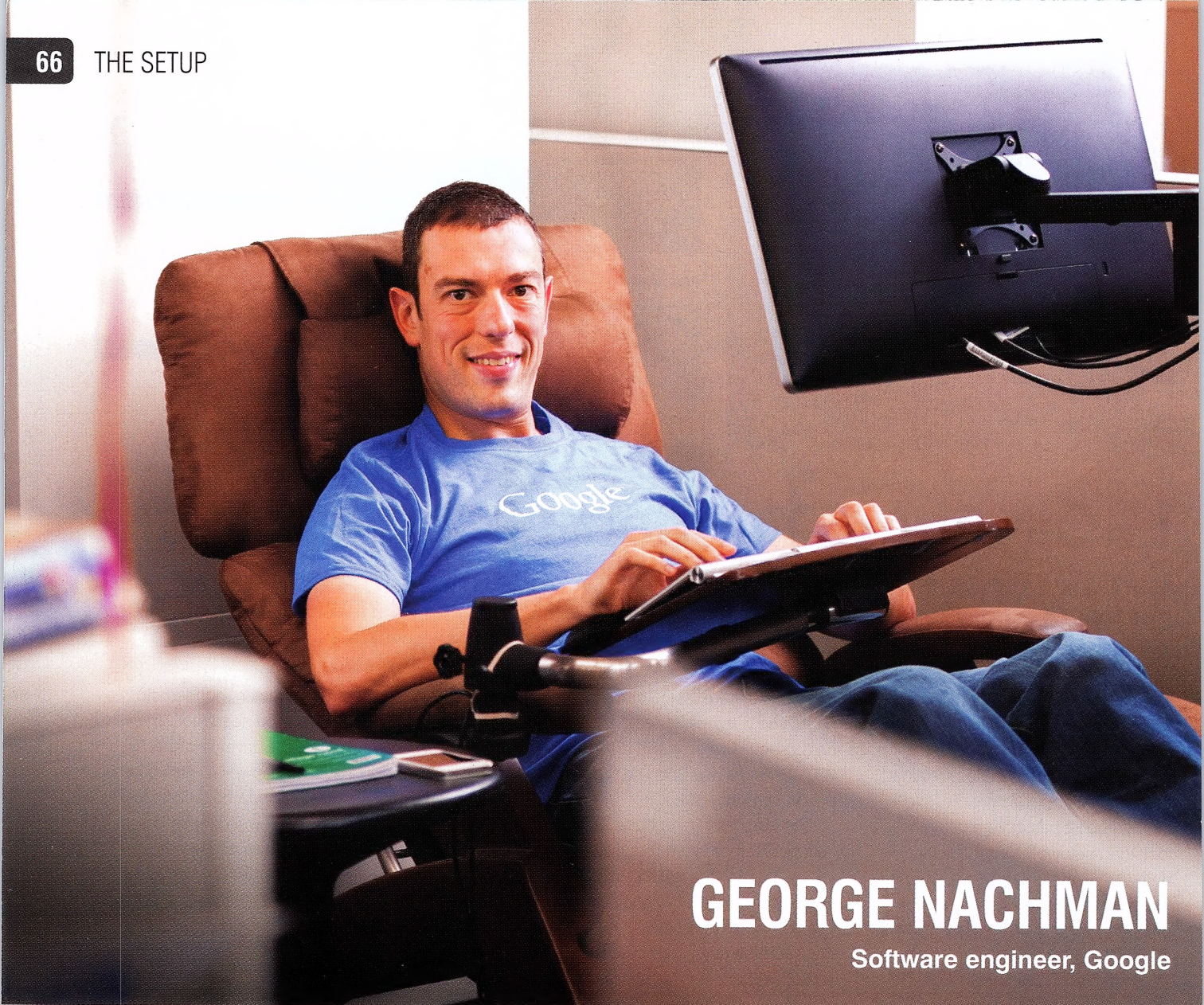


LACIE
www.lacie.com/au

PROS Hardware RAID

CONS Panel covering the ports can be annoying

\$749.95 (6TB); **\$999.95** (8TB); **\$1299.95** (12TB)



GEORGE NACHMAN

Software engineer, Google

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I work at Google on the Google Search App for iOS, and my '20 percent project' is iTerm2 (item2.com). I'm also into woodworking, and my goal is to build all my home furniture from scratch. I love making stuff, whether physical or virtual. Helping others to be more productive is how I accumulate karma.

WHAT HARDWARE DO YOU USE?

My setup at work is pretty cool: I sit in a zero-gravity recliner. My monitor is a Dell 4K display. It's on a pole-mounted monitor arm so I can position it exactly where I need it when lying almost horizontally. I use an Apple Bluetooth keyboard and Magic Trackpad, which is the greatest thing since oxygen. And I use a Mac Pro.

When I'm at home, I use a 13in MacBook Pro. I used to use a 15in MacBook Pro, but I got tired of elbowing strangers on aeroplanes.

AND WHAT SOFTWARE?

I switched over to the Apple universe in 2007, having previously used Windows and Linux. I still use Linux for server-side stuff, but I spend 90 percent of my time doing client development, which suits my personality much better. Not using Windows has been a blessing, because I'm no longer competent to fix broken Windows PCs.

For coding, I use Vim when possible and Xcode when necessary. Since I'm old school, my shell is still tcsh. I'd like to use bash, but tcsh's shortcuts are in the ganglia of my fingers. I got a shell account at my local ISP when I was in high school and learned Unix by typing random commands until something worked. I strongly believe that a person without access to a *nix shell at all times is not living up to his or her full human potential.

That said, I think Alfred is a darn fine program. I use Photoshop and Pixelmator for graphics stuff. On my iPhone, I'm a big fan of Downcast for listening to podcasts, and Reeder for RSS feeds (backed by Feedbin, which is quite awesome). I'm still addicted to *Flappy Bird*; my high score is 81, which I'm both proud and ashamed of.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM SETUP?

I'm pretty sure I have it already. I do wish there were more options for ergonomic keyboards with built-in trackpads, though. It would be really cool to get waterproof equipment and work from a hot tub, but that's probably impractical. ☹️

*Interview courtesy of The Setup (usesthis.com; Twitter: [@usesthis](https://twitter.com/usesthis)).
Photography by Peter Belanger.*

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